

From: John Murtagh
To: [medboardconsultation](#)
Subject: Fwd: Good medical practice
Date: Friday, 17 August 2018 12:50:50 PM

Dear Medical Board

I would like to make a personal comment on the document "Good Medical Practice: A code of Conduct for Doctors in Australia"

This proposed Code comes at a difficult and anxious time for medical practitioners coming to terms many issues including restrictive laws on termination of pregnancy and end of life management notably in Victoria. Then there's issues around freedom of speech and handling of multicultural issues with the spectra of organisations such as the Administrative Appeals Tribunal and the Australian Human Rights commission in the background.. We seem to be heading towards the nightmare of the restrictive Orwellian Society. A problem of the Code is the endorsement of harmful cultural beliefs and other practices which may conflict with the appropriate accepted medical practice or conscience of the practitioner. Questions such as do we really need a code and who are the people who formulate it come to mind. A Code needs to be very transparent and this not seem to be the case. My appeal is for a Code that facilitates optimal medical practice and supports rather than encumbers medical practitioners.

Yours sincerely

John Murtagh

Emeritus Professor John Murtagh AM

