

From: ronda roy
To: [medboardconsultation](#)
Subject: Public consultation on Good Medical Practice
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As a mother and grandmother I am concerned about the Medical Board of Australia's proposed Code of Conduct which will censor the professional judgment of all Australian doctors. This proposed Code of Conduct could force doctors to accept 'cultural beliefs and practices' that are opposed to good medical practice. Many doctors have expressed concern for the future of medicine in Australia in light of proposed changes. As one group said 'Respect for a patient does not equal respecting cultural beliefs and practices that may be antithetical to good medical practice.'. I thoroughly agree.

Cultural practices such as genital mutilation should never be accepted and legitimised and doctors should not be forced to carry out such butchery. It is unclear in the proposed code whether doctors will be compelled to act contrary to their own consciences. The new guidelines will also impact on the freedom of doctors to publicly debate the merits of medical treatments. One would think we lived in a communist nation the way our freedoms are being stripped away. We need good health outcomes and the 2009 Code of Conduct is ethically sound and should not be changed.

I would strongly urge you to reject the new proposed Code of Conduct on the grounds that it is unethical and detrimental to doctors and patients.

Yours Faithfully,

Ronda Roy

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