

**From:** P A Ryan  
**To:** [medboardconsultation](#)  
**Subject:** Public consultation on Good medical practice  
**Date:** Wednesday, 1 August 2018 8:29:25 PM

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To whom it may concern

We wish to express our opposition to the draft revised code of conduct, Good medical practice: A code of conduct for doctors in Australia.

We submit that these proposals endanger doctors and patients regarding clinical decision-making and freedom of conscience.

The proposed changes would be dangerous to good medical practice. A patient or a patient's family could then demand surgical operations and other medical treatments, regardless of medical risk, on the basis of cultural wishes. Based on these significant proposed changes, doctors could be accused of not following the Code of Conduct and lose their registration if they did not go along with such demands. To exclude what doctors consider medically relevant from discussions with patients and families would clearly threaten well-established ethical principles of informed consent. This would not be "good medical practice", and would obstruct the medical professional's freedom to exercise sound clinical judgment.

The proposed changes should not be accepted as they are inconsistent with good medical practice.

Yours sincerely

Paul and Angela Ryan

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]