

From: [REDACTED]
To: [medboardconsultation](#)
Subject: Submission to the public consultation on good medical practice
Date: Saturday, 11 August 2018 6:10:42 AM

Dear Medical Board of Australia,

Please allow me to share with the Board my concerns about section 4.8.1 of the proposed document 'Good medical practice: A code of conduct for doctors in Australia.'

It is this section of the Code that removes all objectivity from the definition of the new term 'culturally safe and respectful care' and which allows it to be defined solely by the patient and/or his family.

The problem with this definition is that not only does it effectively render the term completely subjective and meaningless, but it also has the pernicious effect of automatically convicting a doctor of breaching the code every time a patient makes a complaint that he has (for whatever reason) not provided 'culturally safe and respectful care'!

I hope you agree that this situation would be intolerable and nonsensical for doctors, and I therefore propose that the Board reject these changes and revert to using the tried and tested current Code instead.

Yours sincerely,

Sandra Higgins

[REDACTED]