Dear Sir / Madam,

I am a GP with 35 years of practice and currently practice in Canberra ACT.

I am very concerned at the proposed rewording of the Code of Conduct. I find it ridiculous that the profession should seek to limit my thoughts or conduct as a private citizen and can't help be reminded of Orwell's book *1984* as I consider it. It is in this way alone a direct assault on the freedom of speech and conscience of Drs as individuals and therefore unacceptable.

More to the point professionally, is that discussion and the inevitable disagreement over the causes of diseases and their treatment over the centuries have been essential to the advancement of medicine. Seldom in the history of medicine has a new discovery or idea been universally agreed by the profession and it is unthinkable that any profession would seek to limit the inevitable benefit of the contest of ideas within it.

Dr Jane Taylor MBBS BMed Sc DipRACOG

