

[REDACTED]

From: AHPRA Feedback
Sent: Tuesday, 4 February 2020 2:07 PM
To: Amanda Watson
Cc: Admin Complaints
Subject: FW: New CPD

Hi,

Please see the attached email sent from Stephen Ballard making a complaint regarding CPD Requirements. I have acknowledged receipt with the sender and advised that the appropriate person will be in contact with them directly.

Please respond to the customer within a reasonable timeframe.

AHPRA feedback does not need to be included on any further correspondence.

If this email has been sent to you incorrectly please return to me and advise or forward it onto the correct person.

Let me know if you have any questions relating to this.

Kind regards,

Maddy Kennedy

Regulatory Assistant/ Registration Support -
Performance, Quality and Experience

[REDACTED]
Web | www.ahpra.gov.au

Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency
G.P.O. Box 9958 | Canberra ACT 2601 | www.ahpra.gov.au

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Please consider the environment before printing.

From: stephen ballard [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 30 January 2020 5:22 PM
To: AHPRA Feedback <AHPRA.Feedback@ahpra.gov.au>
Subject: New CPD

Dearest AHPRA.

You have opened Pandora's can of worms, and sought to over-reach beyond what many of us believe might be reasonable.

We have Learned Colleges to determine, or revise standards.

It seems to go beyond AHPRA's role in setting certain standards , with respect to CME, CPD, PPF, etc, to sit broodingly above what our colleges currently demand. Who, in AHPRA, will have the life skills, detailed knowledge, and authority, to determine, above our College requirements, who will be re-registrable.

You say that the new Guidelines (read, protocol, as is Bureacracy-speak) were brought about through discussions with Medical practitioners. Who were they?

We read elsewhere that the contributors to the move to change our CPD requirements were anything but Medical Practitioners.

You say there is evidence to support their introduction as it will improve safety and services. (my paraphrasing). These are assertions, for which you have not provided evidence.

I would agree that there are a lot of articles which are qualitative in nature, describing vague supports to some points of view. the evidence seems weak.

The reasons are akin to the knowledge that we "Cannot treat Stupid", we cannot legislate to make people good.

The sneaky and the Criminally oriented are very good at covering their tracks.

Look at the frequent reports of Child abuse, yet an intense program exists that requires us to prove we are innocent.

The increasing tendency of the State to Presume Guilt.

These presumptions of incompetence, or guilt are odious. And wrongful.

Bad law is useless at the least.

At my 66years, the State still needs my services in Rural centers, yet as bridges to retirement, driving Uber cars, or mowing lawns look very attractive.

All Doctors I work with are committed to PPD, CPD, and all that the colleges request.... though the snuggle-up with AHPRA is concerning.

So, you are expecting us to do more, for less clear benefit to the community, at our time and financial costs.

You are asking us to do the policing.

AHPRA seems to be adopting a Forensic attitude to determining Drs' eligibility to be re-registered.

The inference... loud and clear, is that we are now regarded as incompetent, oblivious and likely criminal, added to the oft pronounced avariciousness ascribed to us by our political masters.

Surely, if it is deemed necessary to adopt a policing role, this should be directed at the tiny group you really should be seeking.

Further... and this really gets up a lot of noses... we mostly work in a team environment, yet this is not reflected in the new requirements.

Too much focus on a large bunch of individuals, who are merely parts of many teams.

The State need to get real and deal with the entrenched System problems, which prevent detection of those miscreants who do exist.

You know where most of the problems arise... The professionally isolated, those subject to multiple complaints, to name common examples.

Deal with them.

Leave the rest us to attain and maintain standards through the Colleges.

And....show us the evidence of a problem, and how increasingly prescriptive policing like requirements will help our communities.

A few outstanding criminal episodes involving people who happened to have Medical Degrees are not firm foundations for inflicting pointless change.

GMail seems to have oddly re-formatted this. I hope it reads OK.

Cheers

Steve Ballard.

GP Anesthetist

