

From: [REDACTED]
To: [medboardconsultation](#)
Subject: Consultation: revised Telehealth guidelines
Date: Wednesday, 15 February 2023 7:22:42 PM

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Dear Ahpra,

Please note I am happy for the content of my submission to be published but not to be personally identified beyond the fact that I am a woman in my early 50's in a regional area.

Having read the consultation paper for revised Telehealth guidelines, I am broadly supportive of the general principles.

However, the guidelines appear to be requiring all prescriptions to be issued after a consultation with a doctor. While I appreciate this may be good practice in some circumstances, this seems very restrictive, especially for routine and renewed prescriptions.

Living in a regional area where access to GPs is limited, this is particularly concerning. I feel the requirement is unlikely to lead to anything other than clogging up GP time, limiting access for more complex and urgent matters, and wasting Medicare money.

I've personally had a very good experience with Telehealth and use it in conjunction with less frequent, but more in-depth visits to my GP to review my health, including my prescriptions, more holistically. I have a busy job, a young family and caring commitments for older parents, and Telehealth enables me to fit more routine interactions seamlessly into my routine. I would miss the flexibility this affords me and would probably avoid spending more travel and waiting time than I can afford on face to face GP visits. This means I would have less, not more (or necessarily better quality), access to medical care.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]