

From: Margaret Zacharin [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 22 March 2018 6:28 PM
To: medboardconsultation <medboardconsultation@ahpra.gov.au>
Subject: Draft revised guidelines: Sexual boundaries in the doctor-patient relationship’.

Dear Sir/Madam

I would like to suggest that consideration be give to modification of the suggested guidelines for wearing gloves for genital and internal examinations.

Whilst the guideline is clearly appropriate for adults , there should be scope for practice differences for the infant, young child and adolescent. Many parents and / or children are upset or distressed when the doctor dons gloves to examine this group of children, assuming that we find them dirty or unpleasant in someway. Furthermoe, attempting to find a poorly descended or tiny testis in a prepubertal child is difficult and requires that the tissue be "milked" downwards to trap the elusive gonad. This is near impossible with a latex glove.

Whilst hand washing/gels are of course appropriate I believe that the statement should be modified to reflect these concerns.

Yours faithfully
Margaret Zacharin
Professor

