

1 May 2012



The Executive Officer,
Medical,
AHPRA,
GPO Box 9958,
MELBOURNE. VIC. 3001

Email to: medboardconsultation@ahpra.gov.au

Medical Indemnity
Protection Society Ltd
ABN 64 007 067 281

PO Box 25
Carlton South VIC 3053
Email: info@mips.com.au
www.mips.com.au

Membership
Call: 1800 061 113
Fax: 1800 061 116

Medico-Legal
Call: 1800 021 223
Fax: 1800 185 186

Dear Sir / Madam,

"CONSULTATION – COSMETIC MEDICAL AND SURGICAL PROCEDURES"

The Medical Indemnity Protection Society Ltd. (MIPS) is a "not for profit" discretionary mutual membership organisation with over 30,000 health practitioner and student members and parent company of the MIPS Group that includes MIPS Insurance Pty. Ltd., an APRA regulated general insurer providing medical indemnity insurance to MIPS members.

The MIPS Constitution requires it to promote honourable and discourage irregular practice and to consider, originate, promote and support, or oppose legislative or other measures affecting members.

We therefore welcome the opportunity to provide comment in relation to the consultation paper.

MIPS is generally supportive of the measures proposed by the Medical Board of Australia. We believe the proposals should not only enhance protection of vulnerable patients, but will also help protect vulnerable healthcare practitioners from the risk arising from a small number of insistent and forceful patients who sometimes later express regret about the outcomes of the procedures they have sought and have been provided in accordance with their wishes.

We also appreciate that Guidelines are not Standards and should not be regarded as such.

Although the proposed guidelines are likely to provide appropriate guidance for most situations, it is important that they should not be considered as a standard that is appropriate for every occasion. For instance, in some circumstances a "cooling off" period may arguably be unnecessary - such as routine office-based minor cosmetic touch-up/maintenance procedures on a competent adult. In other circumstances the cooling off guideline may be inadequate - for example, in the case of a particularly vulnerable minor, three months, or indeed any period of time for cooling off may be too short for consideration.

I am happy to discuss further any of the comments made in this correspondence.

Yours sincerely,

DR. TROY BROWNING

MBBS, MBA, Grad. Dip.Ins., ANZIIF (Fellow) CIP, FAIM, GAICD
Managing Director - MIPS

MIPS - Medical Indemnity Protection Society Limited

MELBOURNE – HEAD OFFICE

Level 3, 15-31 Pelham Street
Carlton VIC 3053

SYDNEY OFFICE

Level 5, 140 Arthur Street
North Sydney NSW 2060

BRISBANE OFFICE

Citilink Business Centre
Lobby 2, Level 4, 153 Campbell Street
Bowen Hills QLD 4006

HOBART OFFICE

PO Box 109
Battery Point TAS 7004
Level 3, 2-4 Kirkway Place
Hobart TAS 7000

PERTH OFFICE

Subiaco Business Centre
Suite 8/531 Hay Street
Subiaco WA 6008