

**From:** [Oliver Van Hecke \(Med\)](#)  
**To:** [medboardconsultation](#)  
**Subject:** Feedback on Draft guidelines: Sexual boundaries: a guide for doctors and patients  
**Date:** Monday, 30 May 2011 12:06:21 PM

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Dear sir/madam

I wish to commend the Board on drafting the guidelines as I think that a discussion needs to be held from an Australian perspective.

As a practising GP I do wish to raise a few concerns in regards the the offer and/or of chaperones in the general practice setting:

The use of chaperones is thought to be inherently different in Australia, in part due to a wide variation in clinician and public attitude (at times historic), diverse cultural influences in the Asia-Pacific region and the unique geographical setting of general practice in Australia.

I think there needs to be consideration for the unique difficulties for GPs in providing chaperones. These are not merely economic reasons but also logistic (e.g. home visit, after-hours care) and the time constraints of general practice consultations.

As it so happens I am doing a small pilot on exactly this topic in the general practice setting. it would be interesting to compare these results with feedback on the draft consultation.

Yours sincerely,

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