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April 29th, 2015

I am writing in relation to the current consultation by AHPRA on the issue of cosmetic medicine and "real-time video". I have been involved in this facet for over 5 years with our team of Cosmetic Nurses.

I believe the issue at hand is one of delivery of "good medicine practice" via "real-time video". Telehealth as such has been practiced since the 1960's and was originally applied by the military and aerospace programs. Since its inception it has expanded to be used in Cardiology, Pathology, Radiology, Psychiatry, Dermatology and of late (2005 and likely before) also offering services in Paediatrics, Nephrology, Obstetrics, Endocrinology and Neurosurgery/Surgery. Others quickly coming on board. The World Health Organisation in a 2006 report states that such technology has improved the delivery and advanced the medical services all around the world and puts Australia, the UK and Canada are the forefront of this and at the same time also indicating it has helped tremendously in Brazil and Asia. It also states the major hurdles are infrastructure, cultural and own prejudice as elements blocking its further expansion.

"Good medicine practice" encompasses several important aspects such as:

1. Both doctor and nurse train together so they are acquainted with each person's skills and abilities.
2. The doctor has ample experience in the field of Cosmetics.
3. A full history is taken, procedure explained with complications and side effects covered, alternatives discussed, costs stated and a written consent form produced.

We feel we comply with all aspects of "Good medicine practice" and Telehealth is part and parcel of the evolving 21st Century Medical Sphere, now used in so many medical branches that involve a professional relationship between all levels of medical/nursing colleagues that its use in the branch of cosmetic medicine should be seen as one more natural addition. We believe that protocols and procedures to improve this service to all the relevant Telehealth professionals (this includes all specialties) would advance this field but should not single one out.

We also offer to show our systems and procedures we follow to demonstrate our service is safe, thorough and professional.

Sincerely,

Dr Juan C. Romero
MBBS