

Medical Crisis

A number of doctors are currently undertaking a program to limit the scope and activities of AHPRA.

There are a number of concerns that:

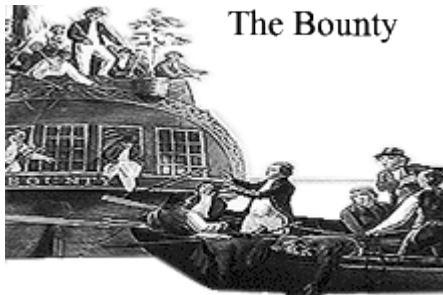
Up to 1 in 3 practitioners can expect to have an education/mentoring/supervisory activity imposed on them within the next 10 years.

In many practices, up to 50% of doctors have significant stories to tell.

There are stories of practitioners undertaking suicide or retiring permanently to avoid the harassment and sanctions.

These statistics underline the broad impact of AHPRA's coercion of doctors. If enforcement is targeting over 1% over an average work group, it implies that the enforcement activities do not reflect the moral compass of the group and that the activities are excessive.

No Appeal is possible against AHPRA decisions and often Medical Defence won't fund an appeal either.



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This is a problem that affects everyone and is harming the ability of doctors to deliver care to the community. Doctors are often afraid to undertake activities or treatments that are too easily the subject of complaint. Doctors are becoming unwilling to touch / examine patients. Doctors are unwilling to tell patients things they may not want to hear. Doctors are losing the ability to be honest with people if it touches sensitive, unpopular or polarised subjects.

AHPRA's activities are deliberately endangering patient's lives. There have been reports in Brisbane of patients whose lives have been endangered by enforced abrupt cessation of medical treatment. It is likely that deaths could result as a result of AHPRA's decisions.

We believe that AHPRA should be held criminally responsible for any harmful or dangerous actions by its Board or its staff.

Further Comment;

Signed

Stamp

Send this letter to

Media,

Ministers,

Other people in charge.