

Communication regarding the implementation of the requirement for cosmetic surgery to be performed in accredited facilities

28 June 2023

Summary

The Medical Board of Australia (the Board) has agreed to defer the requirement that medical practitioners only perform cosmetic surgery in accredited facilities or in facilities that are registered with an Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (ACSQHC) approved accrediting agency and have started working towards accreditation.

Further advice will be provided.

Background

The Board recently announced it was sequencing the start of the requirement that cosmetic surgery (except certain types of blepharoplasty) must be performed in an accredited facility to give facilities working towards accreditation more time to meet the required standards.

The Board had agreed that cosmetic surgery can be performed in a facility that is not yet accredited until 1 July 2024 if, by 1 July 2023, the practitioner can provide evidence:

- that the facility is registered with an ACSQHC approved accrediting agency, and
- from that agency, that they have started working toward accreditation and completed a self-assessment against the National Safety and Quality Health Service (NSQHS) Standards.

The issue

The ACSQHC has alerted the Board that there may be some difficulties with implementing the staged approach described above.

The Board's decision

The Board has decided to **defer** the requirement that medical practitioners only perform cosmetic surgery in accredited facilities or in facilities that are registered with an ACSQHC approved accrediting agency and have started working towards accreditation.

The Board will have further discussions with the ACSQHC and will consider the matter carefully.

Further information will be published once the Board considers the matter.