



**Technology-based Patient Consultation Policy
(Teleconsultation)**
Current June 2018

The College does not see teleconsulting as best practice, however, as the Medical Board of Australia condones it, will not exclude, or expel from membership, otherwise-suitable medical practitioners who either work in groups that use teleconsulting or do teleconsulting themselves. The College does place some limitations on teleconsulting for cosmetic purposes as follows:

- The medical practitioner doing the teleconsultation must work in the field of cosmetic medicine at least part-time and be a member of a cosmetic medical college or society or other college involved with cosmetic medicine and involved in its CME program.
- The medical practitioner doing the teleconsultation accepts responsibility for the procedure where the person performing the treatment is not a medical practitioner.
- The teleconsulting medical practitioner has met the treating nurse in person and has a professional relationship with any nurse to whom he/she delegates and is satisfied that the nurse has adequate training and experience in cosmetic injectables to perform the specific treatment.
- The patient must have an annual review either face to face or via a teleconsultation with a doctor who meets the criteria stipulated in the first dot-point and who accepts responsibility for the subsequent treatments until further review.
- The doctor performing the teleconsultation must be available themselves, or through a suitably-trained medical practitioner locum, to offer immediate advice and support to the remote practitioner in the case of an emergency or where the practitioner needs further guidance. The CPCA believes that best practice would require such a medical practitioner to be on site or physically present within 15 minutes, however as MBA guidelines do not require this, the medical practitioner must at least be able to offer advice within 15 minutes.
- Persons performing the treatment must have in their possession hyaluronidase to use in the event of arterial embolism plus an emergency medical kit to deal with acute allergic reactions and the skill to use them.
- All health professionals should be aware of laws and guidelines, relevant to their particular state, governing advertising, acquisition, storage, transport and administration of S4 medications.

Further information can be found on the AHPRA/Medical Board of Australia website by following this link: <http://www.medicalboard.gov.au/Search.aspx?q=%20Guidelines---Technology-Based-Consultations>