

2) Item 11 (iv) states:

" When it becomes the duty of a practitioner occupying an official position to see and report upon a case of illness or injury, he should communicate with the patient informing him that it is his right to ask his practitioner to be present during the examination. The practitioner seeing the case officially shall scrupulously avoid interference with, or remarks upon the treatment or diagnosis that has been adopted."

While it may not be practicable for the patient's practitioner and the doctor acting in an official capacity to meet when the complaint is trivial, in other cases where differences of opinion exist it is expected that consultation between the two practitioners should take place. Should this occur, particularly when this happens in the presence of the patient, the behaviour of both practitioners shall be exemplary.

The Council will take a serious view of any lapses in this regard.

Other than in the most trivial cases, if a difference of opinion exists between the two practitioners, it would be advisable that an independent opinion on the case is sought from another practitioner which is acceptable to both parties.

A DOCTOR SHALL AT ALL TIMES IDENTIFY HIMSELF WITH THE PATIENT AND WILL ENSURE THAT ANY CERTIFICATES RELEASED BY HIM WILL IN ADDITION TO HIS SIGNATURE BEAR HIS NAME IN BLOCK LETTERS OR HIS RUBBER STAMP.

It is most earnestly recommended that there should be strict compliance with the above provisions.

Yours faithfully,

Francis Mifsud
REGISTRAR