

Questions for AHPRA in Senate Estimates 2 - Draft

1. At present AHPRA conduct **double jeopardy** trials of doctors whose access to Medicare items has been barred by PSR. Given that all Medical Defence Organizations (MDO's) are unanimous that the PSR process contains profound inherent flaws how can such arrogance by AHPRA possibly be justified?
2. In many complaints assessed by AHPRA there is little to no **medical input** involved. That is it seems to respondents recurrently that no one at AHPRA has come to grips with the medical issues of many case. Why is this?
3. On 21.12.2022 The Medical Board of Australia forced Dr Stuart Reece in Brisbane to cease work notwithstanding that AHPRA had been advised repeatedly that Dr Reece was delivering a vital service treating drug addiction cases in Queensland. However in court on 21.03.2023 AHPRA advised QCAT that their case was **indefensible**. If the AHPRA case was indefensible on 21.03.2023 why did AHPRA take action against Dr Reece on 21.12.2022?
4. Why was AHPRA's action against Dr Reece enforced effective **immediately**? The Board has the power to force someone to stop work immediately when that doctor is endangering lives. However all authorities agreed that Dr Reece was saving lives. So why did AHPRA activate its powers for immediate actions in this case?
5. AHPRA was reported in the press to have targeted 20 of the 60 drug **addiction** doctors in Victoria. Why is AHPRA targeting drug addiction doctors?
6. Why did AHPRA go after doctors who were engaging in the same debate over **COVID management including vaccines** which has been going on overseas?
7. When AHPRA decide to **focus** on a particular group of doctors how and why are such decisions made?
8. Who is AHPRA **answerable** to in practice?
9. The AHPRA Reputational survey of the health professions released 23/06/2023 showed that only 40% of doctors trusted AHPRA and only 35% have **professional confidence** in AHPRA. Please explain this massive no confidence motion in AHPRA and explain what is being done to address this crisis of professional confidence?

Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency
(Ahpra)