



Australasian College of Podiatric Surgeons

Policy: Use of the titles "Doctor" and "Surgeon"

Revision Number: 0
Approved: Council
Approval Date: September 2007
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Purpose and Scope

This policy describes the College position on the use of the titles "Doctor" and "Surgeon" by Podiatric Surgeons.

Background

The use of the courtesy title "Doctor" is commonplace in Australian and elsewhere. Examples include Medical Practitioners, Veterinary Surgeons, Dentists and Chiropractors. Similarly, the title "Surgeon" is incorporated in the terms "Veterinary Surgeon" and "Dental Surgeon".

Body of Policy

The College supports the use of the titles "Doctor" and "Podiatric Surgeon" by Fellows of the College.

In order to prevent misunderstanding by consumers as to whether the Fellow is a podiatrist or a medical practitioner the College does not condone the use of the term "Doctor" or "Surgeon" by itself by Fellows of the College. The College considers that all health professionals should take steps to ensure that their profession is identified in an appropriate and unambiguous manner.

The College recognises that the use of the titles "Doctor" and "Surgeon" may be restricted in some States/Territories, or under some circumstances. The College supports reform and changes to the law where necessary in order to remove restrictions on the use of the above named titles, where such restrictions exist, notwithstanding the concerns raised in the previous paragraph.



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Fellows of the College should ensure that they understand and comply with any local regulations concerning the use of the titles "Doctor" and "Surgeon".

Relevant Documents

Nil