

From:

Sent: Monday, August 12, 2024 7:01 PM

To: newsletters

Subject: Accreditation for doctors 70 yrs and over.

Dear AHPRA Staff,

As a now 4 yrs effectively retired 72 yr old doctor , I can say that retirement has been very hard. I badly miss the day to day contact with patients, colleagues and staff. I retired basically when Covid arrived partly because the younger members of the practice who had big mortgages and children to raise were obviously under considerable stress. I had a large following and looking back I regret that I didn't simply work less over a couple of years to prepare. However, I think that is because of my outgoing personality and because I felt I put everything into medicine. And I believe that most professions have the same issue. I do feel that one should be able to remain registered beyond that to be able to write prescriptions and counsel family members.

I do believe however that in general, people should retire for good at 75 regardless of how they feel. There are undoubtedly some who could still practice perfectly safely beyond that but there has to be a line in the sand somewhere.

Cheers, Dr Geoff Kirkman