

The Hon. Brad Hazzard MP
NSW Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research
GPO Box 5341
SYDNEY NSW 2001

6 September 2017

Dear Minister Hazzard,

We write to you as the Presidents of the peak bodies representing Specialist Plastic Surgeons in Australia. Our members are committed to ensuring patient safety and wellbeing.

The members of our Societies were shocked and saddened by last week's tragic events. We personally extend our condolences to the loved ones of Ms Jean Huang.

We support the swift action by the Ministry of Health to direct the Healthcare Complaints Commission (HCCC) to investigate the regulations covering cosmetic procedures both surgical and medical. Appropriate licensing, accreditation and registrations would ideally protect patients from such events that led to the death of Ms Jean Huang at the hands of an unlicensed and unregistered practitioner.

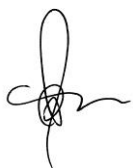
Injectable cosmetic treatments are not risk free. They are invasive medical treatments that require appropriate levels of training, professionalism and ethics. Because these treatments are outside Medicare and immediate government oversight they have slipped under the radar.

To improve patient safety, facilities need to be licensed and practitioners appropriately registered with appropriate qualifications are required for different types of cosmetic procedures and treatments.

Patient safety should be the only consideration.

Should your office wish to discuss further, we would only be too happy to make ourselves available to meet with yourself or one of your representatives.

Yours truly,



Dr Mark Magnusson
President
Australasian Society of Aesthetic Plastic Surgeons



Professor Mark Ashton
President
Australian Society of Plastic Surgeons