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Medical Board suspends doctor charged with rape

A Gatton doctor charged with rape has been suspended by the Medical Board of Queensland.

The Board's decision sends a clear message to doctors who cross professional boundaries when treating patients.

Medical Board Chairperson, Dr Mary Cohn, said both the Board and public expected medical consultations would be safe and that a patient's health would be the doctor's primary concern.

"The relationship between a doctor and a patient is unequal because a patient may need to reveal intimate physical and emotional details," Dr Cohn said.

"Any exploitation of this relationship for the purposes of sexual gratification is a clear abuse of power and a breach of trust."

"These types of acts are completely unacceptable. It's important that doctors establish and maintain a relationship of trust with their patients, but that trust should never be abused.

"If members of the public have concerns their doctor has overstepped professional boundaries during a consultation they should contact the Board immediately."

The Board can be contacted on (07) 3234 0187 between 9am and 5.00pm Monday to Friday. For more information visit www.medicalboard.qld.gov.au

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