

# Medical practitioners should have medical training

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Without medical training, practitioners could misdiagnose and fail to provide necessary treatment. Incomplete access to a patient's medical history might mean that underlying health conditions and potentially dangerous drug interactions are missed.

The hygiene of practitioners' premises is already covered by existing regulations, so a professional registration scheme offers nothing new except recognising that a practice is traditional. This is no better than making astrology, voodoo or old wives tales a medical profession.

A Department of Health stamp of approval would give the impression that a practitioner is medically qualified. The Department of Health should be upholding science-based medical practices, not flattering tradition.

For more information contact Julia Wilson at [jwilson@senseaboutscience.org](mailto:jwilson@senseaboutscience.org) or visit [www.senseaboutscience.org](http://www.senseaboutscience.org).

Sense About Science ([www.senseaboutscience.org](http://www.senseaboutscience.org)), Registered Charity 1101114, is a charitable trust that equips people to make sense of science and evidence.

The Voice of Young Science (VoYS) network is a group of early career researchers and medics who stand up for science in public debates ([www.senseaboutscience.org/voys](http://www.senseaboutscience.org/voys)).

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