I would like to register my concerns about some aspects of the Codes and Guidelines issued by the Psychology Board of Australia in March 2010, pertaining to their impact on the future practice of organisational psychology.

The practice of Psychology is quite diverse and only some of its areas of endeavour relate specifically to health. In particular, organisational psychology has unique aspects that would normally not be considered relevant to individuals' health. As such the implications of the guidelines on these psychologists need to be reviewed.

Organisational psychologists tend to be engaged in areas interchangeably occupied by non-psychology professionals such as Human Resources or Management Consultants. The blanket prohibition of using testimonials in any advertising, for example, could disadvantage psychology professionals when seeking work through competitive tenders. While this initiative is commendable in the health field, it is suggested that suitably worded testimonials be legitimate forms of advertising in areas of psychological practice beyond health services. This is but one small example of a number of serious negative impacts on the practice of organisational psychology that can be that can be expected if these guidelines were to be implemented in their current form.

I would like to commend to the Board, a considered response to the invitation for consultation presented on behalf of the APS College of Organisational Psychologists and prepared by the College’s National Regulatory Developments Working Party, representing a significant input from a group of psychologists involved in various forms of organisational psychology practice.

Richard Kasperczyk