

LETTERS

**“DOCTOR” AS AN ANACHRONISM****No, mate, use of the title “Doctor” is not an anachronism that disrespects patients**

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Medical titles may well reinforce a clinical hierarchy and inculcate deference in Florida, as Kennedy writes,¹ but such constructs are culture bound.

When I worked in outback Australia the patients called me “Mate,” which is what I called them.

They still wanted me to be in charge.

Competing interests: None declared.

1 Kennedy AG. The title “Doctor” is an anachronism that disrespects patients. *BMJ* 2015;351:h6240. (25 November.)

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