

Curriculum Vitae of Dr. Vincent V. Berg

8 Mount Elliott Drive,
ALLIGATOR CREEK,
QUEENSLAND, 4816, AUSTRALIA,
phone 61 7 4780 5996,
e-mail Vincent Berg@health.qld.gov.au

I was born on the 19 February 1952 in the USSR.

After the completion of high school, in September 1969, I entered medical faculty of the Voronezh State University as a full-time student in Medicine with major in Psychiatry. Its combined graduate and postgraduate course had been fully completed by myself. I also fully completed the medical-psychiatric internship and submitted research thesis on the topic "Schizophrenia as A Cause of the Alienation of Personality from Society and of the Antisocial Behaviour". In May 1977, I had been awarded the degree of Doctor of Medicine in Psychiatry. Continuing my postgraduate study, from May 1977 to December 1978, I had undertaken a research in Psychology on the topic "The Alienation of Personality From Society as A Cause of Antisocial Behaviour". After the completion of this research, I had been awarded the research Degree of the Candidate of Sciences in Psychology, which is equal to Australian PhD.

Since January 1978 until April 1982, I had been working as a full-time lecturer and senior lecturer in Abnormal Psychology at the medical faculty of the Voronezh State University. Also, since January 1978 until August 1986, I had been working as a part-time psychiatrist in the psychiatric clinic of the State Department of Health. In April 1982, I had been ordained a deacon in the Russian Orthodox Church. In June 1982, I had been ordained a priest. In June 1986, I had been consecrated as a bishop. In August 1986, the KGB illegally arrested me for my political and religious beliefs. In January 1988, I had been released from the KGB prison. However, I was not allowed to practice officially as psychiatrist and priest. I had been working as a priest in the underground Church and practising privately and secretly as a psychiatrist.

The communist authorities tried to stop my activities. The

persecutions forced me to leave the country of my birth. In December 1992, I arrived in Australia.

All my circumstances and documents were checked and approved by the Australian Federal authorities. In October 1993, I was recognised by the Australian Federal Government as a refugee for political reasons and gained domestic protection. By that time, I rejected Russian citizenship. In June 1994, I was granted permanent residence in Australia, and, on the 30th of October 1996, --Australian citizenship.

I arrived in Australia with my son. As a sole parent, I was granted pension by the government. For the last 6 years, I dedicated my time to my son, looking after him, and to a private research on suicide.

From August 1999 to November 1999, I had been practising as a Clinical Observer in Psychiatry in the Gold Coast Hospital. In October same year, I had been granted conditional registration with the Medical Board of Queensland. Since the 10th of January 2000, I have been working as a Registrar in Psychiatry (non-training position) in the Community Mental Health Services, Townsville. In November 2000, I have been elected an associate member of the Institute of Australasian Psychiatrists.

My referees are:

Dr. Barend Vorster, immediate supervisor, Consultant Psychiatrist, Community Mental Health Services, Townsville, phone 61 7 4727 0211, e-mail Barend_Vorster@health.qld.gov.au;

Dr. Brian Boettcher, associate supervisor, Director of Forensic Psychiatry in North Queensland, phone 61 7 4727 0211, e-mail Brian_Boettcher@health.qld.gov.au;

Dr. Leon Petchkovsky, Senior Specialist Psychiatrist, Director of Psychotherapy, Integrated Mental Health Services, Gold Coast, Senior Lecturer in Psychiatry, University of Queensland, phone 61 7 5571 8911, e-mail Leon_Petchkovsky@health.qld.gov.au.

N. Berg

Vincent Berg.

Detailed Curriculum Vitae of Dr. Vincent Victor Berg

<u><i>Medical Faculty of the Voronezh State</i></u>	
<u><i>University:</i></u>	
Dates of rotation	01.09.1969 – 21.05.1977
Classification	Full-time student in Medicine with major in Psychiatry
Number of studied subjects	58 (fifty eight)
Total hours of studied subjects	6,180 (six thousand one hundred and eighty) hours
Studied subjects (names and hours)	See the Supplement to Degree
Practical training in subjects	One half of a total time per a subject
Course research works	Neurology (20,000 words) and General Psychiatry (25,000 words)
Course work	Organisation and planning of health care (15,000 words)
Total medical practice time at the university (not including internship):	1203 (one thousand two hundred and three) hours
General medical practice in the Voronezh Regional General Hospital	348 (three hundred and forty eight) hours
General	102 (one hundred and two) hours
Nursing	43 (forty three) hours
Surgical	203 (two hundred and three) hours
Specialised medical practice in the Voronezh Regional General Hospital	534 (five hundred and thirty four) hours
Anatomical	144 (one hundred and forty four) hours
Anaesthesiology	17 (seventeen) hours
Dermatology	19 (nineteen) hours
Infectious Diseases	77 (seventy seven) hours
Neurology	97 (ninety seven) hours
Neurological Surgery	32 (thirty two) hours
Oncology	17 (seventeen) hours
Otolaryngology	22 (twenty two) hours
Paediatrics	23 (twenty three) hours
Radiology	17 (seventeen) hours
Heart Diseases	30 (thirty) hours
Physiotherapy	39 (thirty nine) hours

Psychiatric practice in the Voronezh Regional Psychiatric Hospital	321 (three hundred and twenty one) hours
General Psychiatry	142 (one hundred and forty two) hours
Psychotherapy	61 (sixty one) hours
Child and Adolescent Psychiatry	58 (fifty eight) hours
Forensic Psychiatry	60 (sixty) hours
Medical-psychiatric internship in the Voronezh Regional Psychiatric Hospital	01.09.1975 – 01.05.1977
Dates of rotation	Full-time psychiatrist (supervised) – 40 (forty) hours per week, 01.09.75 – 31.08.76
Classification	Part-time psychiatrist (supervised) – 20 (twenty) hours per week, 01.09.76 – 01.05.77
Supervisor (individual)	Professor of Psychiatry M. Shumsky (Doctor of Medicine in Psychiatry)
Training experience	Two thirds of time spent treating inpatients (adults and children) with various diseases, mostly with acute forms of schizophrenia and bipolar disorder. One third of time spent in hospital's clinic treating outpatients (adults and children) with anxiety and personality disorders, depressions, paranoias, hysterias, addictions to substances, etc.
Case histories (> 5,000 words)	Three (one adult patient with acute schizophrenia, one 14-year-old patient with anorexia nervosa, and one elderly patient with Parkinson's disease)
Qualifying research in Psychiatry	Research and thesis (60,000 words)
Form	"Schizophrenia as a Cause of the Alienation of Personality From Society and of the Antisocial Behaviour"
Topic	01.09.1975 – 01.05.1977
Dates of rotation	Professor of Psychiatry M. Shumsky (Doctor of Medicine in Psychiatry)
Supervisor	
Degree awarded	Doctor of Medicine in Psychiatry
<u>Medical Faculty of the Voronezh State University:</u>	
Dates of rotation	January 1978 – April 1982
Classification	Lecturer and Senior Lecturer in Abnormal Psychology
Appointment	Full-time, 38 (thirty eight) hours per

Location	week Voronezh-city (USSR)
Supervision	Without supervision
<u>Voronezh Regional Psycho-neurological clinic:</u>	
Dates of rotation	January 1978 – August 1986
Classification	Psychiatrist
Appointment	Part-time, 20 (twenty) hours per week
Location	Voronezh-city (USSR)
Supervision	By senior staff in the forms of consultations when requested, ward rounds, and professional meetings
Patients treated	Outpatients (adults and children) with various psychiatric diseases. Inpatients of the Voronezh Regional Psychiatric Hospital, when visiting patients sent by myself, or when invited for consultation
Total duration of the postgraduate on-job psychiatric training	5 (five) years: 2 (two) years of medical-psychiatric internship and 3 (three) years as a junior psychiatrist
<u>Awarded the Research Degree of the Candidate of Sciences in Psychology</u> (equivalent of Australian PhD in Psychology):	
Date	15.12.1978
Form	Research, thesis (85,000 words), and publications
Topic	“The Alienation of Personality From Society as A Cause of Antisocial Behaviour”
<u>Private Practice as Psychiatrist:</u>	
Dates of rotation	January 1988 – September 1992
Classification	Psychiatrist
Location	Tula-city (Russia)
Average hours per week	10 (ten) hours
Patients (adults only)	Mostly, with anxiety and depressive disorders. Some – with schizophrenia, bipolar disorders, etc.

Treatment methods	Psychotherapy including hypnosis
Total medical practice time in General Hospital	1 (one) year
Experience in Psychiatry equivalent to Australian junior registrar (1974 – 1977)	3 (three) years
Experience in Psychiatry equivalent to Australian senior registrar (1978 – 1980)	3 (three) years
Experience in Psychiatry equivalent to Australian consultant and senior psychiatrist experience (1981 – 1992)	11 (eleven) years
Teaching experience in Psychiatry	4.5 (four and a half) years as a Lecturer and Senior Lecturer at the Voronezh State University
Number of articles published (1974 – 1986)	About 60 (sixty)
<u>Australia:</u> Arrival as a tourist Political and religious refugee under Australian government protection Pensioner Permanent residence in Australia Full-time clinical observer in Psychiatry in the Gold Coast Hospital Conditional registration with the Medical Board of Queensland Registrar in Psychiatry in the Community Mental Health Services, Townsville Associate Member of the Institute of Australasian Psychiatrists	19 th of December 1992 Granted in August 1993 September 1993 – 9 th of January 2000 Granted in June 1994 August 1999 – November 1999 Since October 1999, No. 991357 10 th of January 2000 – present time November 2000

Townsville Health Service District
Forensic Mental Health Service
Northern Zone

Enquiries: 59 Cambridge Street
VINCENT 4814
Telephone: (07) 47 270 211
Facsimile: (07) 47 270 226
Email:
File Number:
Our Ref: BB:LL
Your Ref:

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

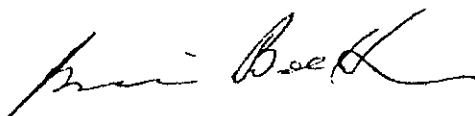
I have worked with Vincent Berg for several months since starting work in Townsville as the Director of Forensic Mental Health Services, Northern Zone. He has been sharing the same rooms as myself and I have been supervising him from time to time and discussing patients with him.

He clearly has considerable experience in Psychiatry and I have examined his original Russian credentials together with certified copies in English of these credentials and they all seem perfectly in order to me. He also showed several papers that he has written together with a paper that he had done on suicide, which I would believe, is at PhD standard and is about 85,000 words long. The work itself is extremely good and it is an excellent review of suicide together with some original thoughts on this subject.

He has a degree in Russia which would qualify him in Australia I believe, as a Consultant Psychiatrist as well as having medical and psychiatric qualifications, he has also obtained a PhD in Russia. His English is good and he relates well to patients. I believe he should be working in Australia as a Consultant Psychiatrist level.

Added to all this, is the incredible hardship that he suffered in Russia after he was persecuted for political reasons and was eventually accepted in Australia as a Political Refugee. I believe he has much to teach us about Psychiatry as performed in Europe and it would be a considerable loss if people such as him are not recognised as specialist Psychiatrists in Australia with his very considerable experience.


Yours sincerely

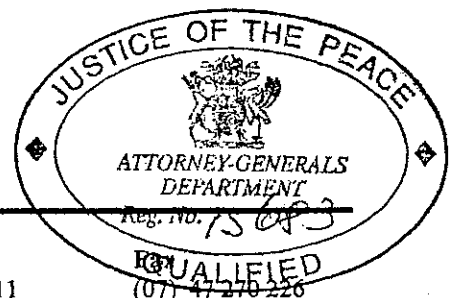


DR. B. BOETTCHER
Consultant Psychiatrist and
Director
Forensic Mental Health Service
Northern Zone
Queensland

November 13, 2000.

**This is to certify that this a true copy
of the original, which I have sighted.**

 20.11.00
Ann Billingsley, 15683



Office
59 Cambridge Street
VINCENT 4814

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Locked Mail Bag 1
AITKENVALE 4814

Phone
(07) 47 270 211



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LITTLE HIGH STREET,
SOUTHPORT QLD 4215
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55718911
FACSIMILE (07) 55 718908

GOLD COAST DISTRICT HEALTH SERVICE

JJ/gx

Dr Leon Petchkovsky MB BS, DPM, FRCPsych, PhD
Senior Specialist Psychiatrist, Integrated Mental Health Service
Director, the Psychotherapy Programme of the Gold Coast IMHS
Senior Lecturer, Psychiatry, University of Queensland.
<Leon_Petchkovsky@health.qld.gov.au>
Pn 006991 BL

10-11-00

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

- I have known Dr Vincent Berg for over a year, since his placement at our Gold Coast Hospital Department of Psychiatry. He is an experienced and trusted colleague and I have no hesitation in recommending him for any Consultant level posting he might apply for.
- He is **well-qualified** and very experienced. Vincent trained as a specialist in psychiatry in the former Soviet Union. In addition, he wrote an excellent Doctoral Thesis ("Aspects of Suicide") to the theme of suicidality in adolescents, a copy of which I have in my library. Thus, in comparable terms of qualifications, he has the equivalent of a Medical Degree with a postgraduate qualification in Psychiatry to the fellowship level, and a PhD to an important and topical psychiatric subject as well.
- Dr Berg has much to teach us from a European Psychiatric perspective. He has also had a chance over the last 12 months to catch up with current developments in best psychiatric practice in Australia.
- It should be said that he is a man of the highest possible standards of **integrity**, tried in the fires of life. After his psychiatric training, he entered the Russian Orthodox priesthood in the "pre-Glasnost" period, and suffered political persecution. He has my highest respect and admiration.
- Finally, and not inconsiderably, in recent discussions with my Russian-speaking Sydney friend and colleague, the Consultant Forensic Psychiatrist Dr Milorad Sokolovski, I learnt that the psychiatric needs of our large Russian speaking migrant group were not being met because there were so few **Russian speaking psychiatrists** in practice.

For all the above reasons and more, I value Dr Berg and the contributions he is bringing to Australian psychiatry.

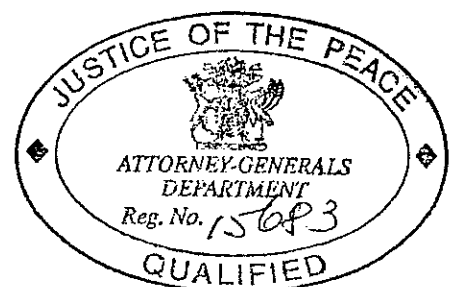
He will be a strong asset to any service he joins.

A handwritten signature in cursive, appearing to read 'Leon Petchkovsky'.

Dr Leon Petchkovsky

**This is to certify that this a true copy
of the original, which I have sighted.**

A handwritten signature in cursive, appearing to read 'Ann Billingsley', followed by the date '20.11.00' and a dotted line.
Ann Billingsley, 15683



AJJ-2

00/1876	Registration No. 0204492
5.12.02	Date Sent.
	Copies.
	Action

Townsville Health Service District
District Administration

Enquiries to: Executive Office
 Telephone: 07 4796 1003
 Facsimile: 07 4796 1021
 Our Ref: P:\dms\nikki\corresp\nov\281102_2
 Email: Andrew_Johnson@health.qld.gov.au

Gail McKenzie
 Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists
 309 LaTrobe St
 MELBOURNE VIC 3000
 Fax: 0396425652
 Email: Gail.McKenzie@ranzcp.org

Dear Ms McKenzie,

RE: Dr Vincent Berg

Further to our conversation today regarding Dr Vincent Berg, I would greatly appreciate formal notification by the College of Psychiatrists as to the validity of Dr Berg's qualifications.

It is my understanding from our conversation that you have established that Dr Berg's qualifications as presented to Townsville Health Service District are in fact "bogus", which obviously raises significant concerns for the Townsville District regarding care that he had provided over the time of his appointment here. Your earliest advice would be greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Andrew Johnson
 Executive Director of Medical Services
 Townsville Health Service District
 28.11.2002

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AJJ-3

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THE ROYAL
AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND
COLLEGE OF PSYCHIATRISTS
ABN 68 000 439 047

2 December 2002

Dr Andrew Johnson
Executive Director of Medical Services
Townsville Health Service District
PO Box 670
TOWNSVILLE QLD 4810

Dear Dr Johnson

Re: Dr Vincent Berg

I acknowledge receipt of your letter via email dated 28 November 2002 in relation to Dr Vincent Berg.

Dr Berg's application for Advanced Standing/Specialist Assessment via the Australian Medical Council was considered by the Fellowships Board Training and Examination Exemptions Subcommittee on 20 September 2001. As part of the standard RANZCP assessment process, applicants' overseas psychiatric qualifications are confirmed with the relevant College/University or Authority. The Voronezh State University in Russia were contacted first by email and then by fax and post to verify Dr Berg's qualification in psychiatry. Dr Berg submitted qualifications in a name he now no longer uses, attaching a Statutory Declaration dated 1 August 2001 stating the change of name to Vincent Victor Berg.

The Voronezh State University replied informing the RANZCP that they did not produce the diploma indicated in our letter and moreover the educational program stated was not in existence at that time. The Voronezh State University reiterated this statement again in writing after reviewing the faxed documents, adding that they were crude forgeries.

The Australian Medical Council were notified of the above on 16 October 2001 and subsequent discussions with the AMC lead the College to contact the Queensland Medical Board on 23 January 2002 about the veracity of information and documentation submitted by Dr Berg for Advanced Standing/Specialist Assessment with the RANZCP. Please see attached copy of letter to the Queensland Medical Board on 23 January 2002.

Yours sincerely

Gail McKenzie
Administrative Officer
Training and Assessment

Encl:

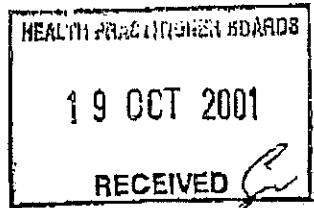
File No	00/1876	Registration No	0306912
Date Received	5.12.02	Date Sent	
Action Officer		Copies	
Reference		Action	
Resubmit Date			



THE ROYAL
AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND
COLLEGE OF PSYCHIATRISTS
ABN 68 000 439 047

16 October 2001

Mr Ian Frank
Executive Officer
Australian Medical Council Inc
PO Box 4810
KINGSTON ACT 2604



Dear Mr Frank

Re: APPLICATION FOR SPECIALIST ASSESSMENT/ADVANCED STANDING
DR VINCENT BERG
AMC REFERENCE NO.: 2010509

I write on behalf of the Fellowship Board Training and Examinations Exemptions Sub-committee regarding Dr Berg's application for specialist assessment/advanced standing. The Training and Examinations Exemptions Sub-committee formally considered this matter on the 20 September 2001.

Dr Berg stated in his application to the Australian Medical Council and the RANZCP, that he obtained his primary medical qualification (1975) and his Doctorate of Medicine in Psychiatry (1977) from the Voronezh State University in Russia. Dr Berg's submitted qualifications are in the name of Techkaline Victor Vladimirovich, which Dr Berg states in his Statutory Declaration dated 1 August 2001, he changed to Vincent Victor Berg.

As part of the standard RANZCP assessment process, applicants' overseas psychiatric qualifications are confirmed with the relevant College/University or Authority. The email address of the Voronezh State University in Russia was obtained via the internet and was contacted to confirm Dr Techkaline's qualifications in Psychiatry.

The Voronezh State University replied informing the RANZCP that they did not produce diploma number 723438 "Medical Degree in Psychiatry" and moreover the educational program stated was not in existence in 1977. The Voronezh State University requested faxed copies of Degree M-I No. 723438 "Medical Doctor in Psychiatry" and Degree MC XII No. 14211 "Candidate of Sciences in Psychology" for review, see attached email and facsimile to Sharon Rayner (trainee staff member) dated 10 and 17 September 2001.

After review of the faxed qualifications, Sergey Zapriagaev from the Voronezh State University emailed the College stating that the documents were crude forgeries, see attached email dated 11 September 2001. Faxed confirmation of this statement on Voronezh State University letterhead dated 17 September 2001, is also attached.

Yours sincerely

Gail McKenzie
Administrative Officer
Training and Assessment

cc Queensland Medical Board



THE ROYAL
AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND
COLLEGE OF PSYCHIATRISTS
ABN 68 000 439 047

48
COPY

23 January 2002

Mr John Greenaway
Executive Officer/Registrar
Queensland Medical Board
GPO Box 2438
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Dear Mr Greenaway

Re: DR VINCENT BERG

Formal consideration of an application for advanced standing/specialist assessment from Dr Vincent Berg, via the Australian Medical Council by the Fellowships Board Training and Examination Exemptions Sub-committee, took place on 20 September 2001. A report regarding the outcome of the Exemptions Sub-committee's assessment of Dr Berg's application was forwarded to Mr Ian Frank, Executive Officer of the Australian Medical Council on 16 October 2001, and copied to the Queensland Medical Board.

The College advises that it is unable to proceed to undertake the advanced standing/specialist assessment of Dr Berg's application because of concerns about information obtained from Russia regarding the veracity of information and documentation submitted by Dr Berg.

Yours sincerely

Craig Glenroy Patterson
Executive Director

cc Australian Medical Council

AJJ-9

58

From: Andrew Johnson
To: Buckland, Steve
Subject: Critical Issue, Townsville

File No	00/1876	Registration No	0306910
Date Received:	10.2.03	Date Sent:	
Action Officer:		Copies:	
Reference		Action	
Resubmit Date			

Dear Steve,

after discussion with Terry, this is a heads - up of a critical clinical issue in Townsville.

yours
 Andrew Johnson

BACKGROUND:

Dr Vincent Berg applied for appointment to a Psychiatry Registrar position within the Mental Health Unit of the Townsville Health Service District in late 1999. The appointment was for the year 2000 medical intake.

Dr Berg stated that he was Russian born and had Russian qualifications in the field.

He stated that he had fled Russia because of political and religious persecution and claimed to have refugee status and had been in Australia since December 1992.

He claimed to have changed his identity since moving to Australia because of concerns for his security.

Dr Berg was granted conditional registration by the Medical Board of Queensland to undertake approved training in psychiatry under section 17C(a) of the Medical Act 1939.

Advice and references were also sought from Dr Petchovsky of the Gold Coast with whom Dr Berg was working in an observation role.

Dr Berg took up a position as a Psychiatric Registrar at the Mental Health Unit of the Townsville Health Service in January 2000.

In early August of 2000, the newly appointed Executive Director of Medical Services Dr Andrew Johnson discussed issues relating to clinical and behavioural problems relating to Dr Berg with Dr John Allan, Director of the Mental Health Unit.

Dr Allan and Dr Johnson met with Dr Berg regarding a Performance Management Plan for Dr Berg which commenced in August 2000.

In spite of this plan, Dr Berg's clinical and behavioural problems continued for the rest of his term and he was not re-employed in 2001.

KEY ISSUES:

During an unrelated conversation with the Registrar of the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists on Thursday 28 November 2002, it was discovered that the College had investigated Dr Berg's qualifications and had discovered that his claimed psychiatric qualifications were false. Dr Berg had identified that both his undergraduate and postgraduate qualifications were from the Voronezh State University.

The RANZCP have provided the following advice

"Dr Berg's application for Advanced Standing/Specialist Assessment via the Australian Medical Council was considered by the Fellowships Board Training and Examination Exemptions Sub-committee on 20 September 2001. As part of the standard RANZCP assessment process, applicants' overseas psychiatric qualifications are confirmed with the relevant College/University or Authority. The Voronezh State University in Russia were contacted first by email and then by fax and post to verify Dr Berg's qualification in psychiatry. Dr Berg submitted qualifications in a name he now no longer uses, attaching a Statutory Declaration dated 1 August 2001 stating the change of name to Vincent Victor Berg.

The Voronezh State University replied informing the RANZCP that they did not produce the diploma indicated in our letter and moreover the educational program stated was not in existence at that time. The Voronezh State University reiterated this statement again in writing after reviewing the faxed documents, adding that they were crude forgeries.

The Australian Medical Council were notified of the above on 16 October 2001 and subsequent discussions with the AMC lead the College to contact the Queensland Medical Board on 23 January 2002 about the veracity of information and documentation submitted by Dr Berg for Advanced Standing/Specialist Assessment with the RANZCP."

The Townsville Health Service had not been previously informed of these findings.

During the time Dr Berg was employed Townsville he had seen patients in his capacity as a Psychiatry Registrar within the Acute Mental Health Unit, the Community Mental Health Unit, the Community Mental Health Unit in Charters Towers and had also seen patients in the Emergency Department through involvement with the intake assessment team.

We understand from the same discussion with the RANZCP, that a second person, practiced in Toowoomba, without appropriate qualification. The Deputy Director of Medical Services in Toowoomba, Dr Susan O'Dwyer, has been notified and is following up with further investigation.

ACTIONS TAKEN/ REQUIRED:

We are currently identifying the patients that Dr Berg consulted with during his term in Townsville/Charters Towers. Although his clinical practice would have been scrutinised by Consultants from the time he began with the THSD and even more so following his Performance Management Plan, we are still reviewing the medical records of the patients involved to identify if any inappropriate clinical practice occurred.

We intend to contact all patients involved with a view to discussing their implications of this issue.

A communications plan is currently under development.

Toowoomba Base Hospital is currently seeking further clarification from the RANZCP.

Given the extreme sensitivity of this matter, and the fact that it has been identified in two separate Districts, Townsville Health Services District recommends that close co-operation be maintained between Townsville and Toowoomba before making public comment.

CC: John Allan; Terry Mehan; Vohland, Karen; Whelan, Ken