

COMMISSION OF INQUIRY NO. 1 OF 2005
MEDICAL BOARD OF QUEENSLAND

This is the annexure marked "**MDG-7**" mentioned and referred to in the Statement of **MICHAEL STEVEN DEMY-GEROE** dated this 17th day of May 2005.

7 April 2005

Mr Rob Messenger MP
Member for Burnett
PO Box 8371
BARGARA QLD 4670

Dear Mr Messenger

Dr E M Cohn has asked that I acknowledge receipt of your correspondence received in the Board's office on 23 March 2005 and 7 April 2005, concerning allegations against Dr Jayant Patel, who held a position as a senior medical officer in surgery at Bundaberg Base Hospital until 31 March 2005. It is the Board's usual practice to acknowledge correspondence only after initial assessment, when a possible course of action can also be indicated.

Dr Cohn has also asked that you be informed Queensland Health, on 24 March 2005, formally drew the Board's attention to concerns regarding Dr Patel's surgical expertise and judgement, and requested that the Board conduct an assessment of his performance. This matter has been referred to the boards' Complaints Committee for initial consideration and it had been contemplated that conditions may be imposed upon Dr Patel's registration.

I am also to advise however that, at its meeting held on 6 April 2005, the Board's Registration Advisory Committee noted that Dr Patel's special purpose registration as a medical practitioner in Queensland had lapsed on 31 March 2005 as he had failed to renew his employment contract with the hospital, and Queensland Health's area of need certificate had consequently been withdrawn.

The outstanding matters concerning Dr Patel will be considered by the board with respect to any further action possible or desirable, and the Board will inform you further of outcomes in due course. Issues of ongoing public protection and assurance of professional, safe and competent practise by Dr Patel however would have been removed with the discontinuation of his registration.

Yours sincerely



Michael Demy-Geroe
Deputy Registrar