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**Queensland
Government**
Queensland Health

MEMORANDUM

To: Dr Steve Buckland, Director-General

From: Dr John Scott, Senior Executive
Director Health Services

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Subject: Review of Orthopaedic Health Care – Fraser Coast

I refer to your memorandum of 9 May 2005 and the attached report prepared by Drs Giblin and North on the provision of orthopaedic services in the public sector in the Fraser Coast Health Service District.

I support your meeting urgently with the authors and agree that their observations seem to be based on advice from a range of parties and not on clinical material, either in terms of cases performed by the doctors under consideration or through personal observation of the operative procedures and capacity of the doctors involved.

I also believe that their report needs to be provided to the management of the Fraser Coast Health Service District and to the doctors involved in order that we give them an opportunity to respond to the allegations or observations contained in this report and to deliver natural justice.

Further, I also support your recommendation that we arrange for the operative skills of the doctors in question to be formally assessed through the Skills Development Centre at the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital. I have spoken to the Director of the Centre who advises that they don't have the facilities available there to assess orthopaedic operative competence in a simulated environment but he has agreed to work with me to arrange an appropriate clinical assessment and I will make arrangements for this to happen.

If you do meet with the authors of the report I would also value their advice as office bearers in the Australian Orthopaedic Association, with regard to:

- What the Association intends to do with regard to the performance (as described by them) of their Fellow Dr Morgan Naidoo
- What assistance they could provide with regard to recruitment to the Fraser Coast (and to other areas like Rockhampton) given their advice that the area needs another four or five Orthopaedic Specialists.

I trust this addresses your issues.

Dr John Scott
Senior Executive Director Health Services

10 / 5 / 2005