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Department of Medical Services  
Bundaberg Health Service District  
Bundaberg Base Hospital  
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FILE COPY

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11 December 2003

The Complaints Unit  
Medical Board of Queensland  
GPO Box 2438  
BRISBANE Q. 4001

Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing this letter to bring to your attention a further complaint about the professional conduct of Dr Tariq Qureshi. He is an overseas-trained medical practitioner, who has been employed by Bundaberg Health Service District as a RMO 3 since 29 July 2003. He is registered under Section 135 of the Medical Practitioners Registration Act 2001 and his registration number is 1031002.

On 8 December 2003, I received a report by phone from Nursing Admin staff concerning P13, who was being examined by Dr Qureshi. I briefly discussed the situation with Dr Qureshi that evening. I interviewed P13 at approximately 9:30am on 9 December 2003. P13 presented to the Department of Emergency Medicine following several convulsions. She was initially examined by one of the medical staff in DEM, who requested Dr Qureshi (on-call for Medicine) review the patient. He examined the patient at approximately 1930h. P13 noted that Dr Qureshi repeatedly stroked her head and hair during this examination. She noted this seemed odd but didn't question this action. Thereafter Dr Qureshi was called to the wards.

Sometime later, P13 remembers that she was feeling sleepy and drowsy in a post-ictal state and alleges that she sensed Dr Qureshi bending over her, kissing her on her left cheek several times, before placing his hand down her chest. Thereafter he moved to her right side and seemed to kiss her right cheek. She was unable to speak, but when a nurse approached her checking on her condition, she burst into tears and explained what had happened. P13 requested that she be treated by another doctor. This request was actioned.

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I interviewed Dr Qureshi at 10am on 9 December 2003. He denied the alleged actions, instead noting that he had returned to review P13 and found her to be more drowsy than previous and asked nursing staff if any further seizures had been observed. He remembers a nurse checked the patient, a conversation occurred between the nurse and patient and thereafter he was told P13 was to be cared for by another doctor.

I have reinforced the requirement to have a chaperone when examining any female patient and removed him from the on-call roster until further notice. Separate administrative action has begun in relation to these incidents, under Queensland Health's Code of Conduct.

This incident is brought to your attention because of the significance of the allegations and a possible pattern, in order that an appropriate form of investigation by the Medical Board of Queensland can occur. P13 has agreed to an interview with the Medical Board if required. I have explained to Dr Qureshi that this incident would be forwarded to the Medical Board.

Should you require any further information, please contact my office on 07 4150 2210.

Yours sincerely

**Dr Darren Keating**  
Director of Medical Services