Question on Notice
No. 215
Asked on 27 April 2004

MR COPELAND asked the Minister for Health (MR NUTTALL)-

QUESTION:

Will he advise the waiting times for specialist appointments in each health district, by specialty area?

ANSWER:

Queensland Health does not currently collect waiting times for specialist outpatient appointments in a consistent manner.

Queensland Health has undertaken a body of work to ensure a consistent approach to the management of specialist outpatient waiting lists including establishment of the Specialist Outpatient Advisory Committee. Key outcomes from this committee include:

- development of the *Guidelines for the Management of Specialist Outpatient Clinic Waiting Lists* in 2001;
- recent development of the *Policy Framework for Specialist Outpatient Services* (currently in the process of being published); and
- promotion of best practice in the coordination and management of specialist outpatient services, patient access, and waiting lists.