

Question on Notice
No. 677
Asked on 16 June 2004

Mr MESSENGER asked the Minister for Health (MR NUTTALL)–

QUESTION:

With reference to the Question I asked in Parliament on 11 May 2004 regarding an extract from the policy and procedures manual of the Bundaberg Health Service District titled “Suspected Illicit Substances” which provides for staff who suspect that a patient possesses illicit substances to remove the substance or to dispose of it and, as he would recall, states that no patient is to be automatically reported to police–

Since asking this Question, will he detail what directive has been given to nursing staff in each health district regarding the policy of illicit substances in the possession of patients?

ANSWER:

No state-wide directive has been issued regarding the management of illicit substances since the matter was raised on 11 May 2004. There is a current policy in place which outlines the process to be used by Health Service District staff who come into possession of suspected illicit substances during the course of their duties.