

**Question on Notice
No. 1536
Asked on 30 November 2006**

MR LANGBROEK asked the Minister for Health (MR ROBERTSON)-

QUESTION:

Will he advise whether Queensland Health has a non-admission policy for children at any Queensland hospital, listing such hospitals and why the policy is in place?

ANSWER:

Queensland Health does not have a non-admission policy for children. However, not every Queensland Health hospital will have the service capacity to provide optimal treatment to children. Whether any given hospital possesses adequate service capacity for a particular case is a clinical decision to be made based upon specific circumstances.

As such, it must be understood that where the level of care required exceeds the service capacity that can be delivered at a hospital where a child patient presents, appropriate treatment for that child may include transferral to a different hospital.

In fact all patients, including children who present to hospital will be assessed to determine their best clinical management, a process that includes consideration of the appropriate location at which they may receive optimal care depending on their circumstances.