

Question on Notice
No. 339
Asked on 9 March 2007

MR FOLEY asked the Premier and Minister for Trade (MR BEATTIE) -

QUESTION:

- (1) Is it true that no hospital victim of the 'Fraser Coast Patient Support Group' has been paid any compensation?
- (2) How many of these patients have dates set for mediation?
- (3) Why have Dr Jayant Patel victims been compensated, yet Fraser Coast victims have been left out in the cold, in terms of compensation?

ANSWER:

(1) There are a number of Fraser Coast patients who have made complaints to the Health Quality and Complaints Commission (the Commission) or via the *Personal Injuries Proceedings Act 2002* (the Act). However, it is not known which complaints are from members of the Fraser Coast Patient Support Group.

A large number of patients have received the benefit of fast-tracked medical care and a number of cases have been confirmed as appropriate for conciliation and are in the conciliation process.

As at 22 March 2007, 35 matters have been closed by the Commission as either:

- no issues for investigation/treatment were entirely appropriate (27);
- the practitioner referred the case to the Medical Board but no compensation was sought or no compensation was payable as the patient suffered no loss (4);
- the claimant was satisfied with the explanation of treatment/apology and did not seek treatment (2);
- the complaint was closed after the District agreed to reimburse the costs of having treatment done privately (1); and
- the complaint was withdrawn as it was to be pursued through the requirements of the Act after the patient sought legal advice (1).

(2) There are a total of eight matters in conciliation before the Commission; however, it is unknown which of these patients (if any) are members of the Fraser Coast Patient Support Group.

(3) The Commission currently has 19 open matters involving Fraser Coast patients, eight that are in conciliation, ten which are still in various stages of investigation by the Commission and one in which an inquest has been held and the coroner's findings have not yet been handed down.