

Question on Notice
No. 42
Asked on 6 February 2007

MRS PRATT asked the Minister for Health (MR ROBERTSON)-

QUESTION:

With reference to the suspension of Dr Patrick Lip of Wondai—

- (1) Did the Government, because of the election being due, use undue influence to have Dr Lip suspended?
- (2) When is this case expected to be resolved?
- (3) Has the Government organised a locum to stand in for Dr Lip to relieve the pressure on all the other doctors in the area?
- (4) Has the Government put a replacement on notice in the event Dr Lip's suspension is upheld?

ANSWER:

(1&2) The Government had no role in the suspension of Dr Lip. The independent Health Quality and Complaints Commission is currently investigating matters involving Dr Lip. Dr Lip's registration to practice medicine in Queensland has been suspended by the Medical Registration Board of Queensland pending their investigation.

(3&4) Public medical services continue to be provided to the residents of the South Burnett District by Queensland Health through the Wondai Community Health Centre, Murgon Hospital and Kingaroy Hospital.

Private medical services to the residents of Queensland Health's Weinholt Nursing Home are being provided by Dr Lip's nominated medical officer Dr McAllister, Medical Superintendent with Right of Private Practice, Murgon.

Private general practice locum arrangements have not been put in place by Queensland Health as private patient arrangements are at the discretion of Dr Lip. Dr Lip has not put in place locum arrangements for general practice.

General practice services are available to the community of Wondai through general practices in Wondai, Murgon and Kingaroy. A general practice in Wondai continues to accept new patients as do several medical practices in Kingaroy.