



Department of Health

Enquiries to: Kaye Hewson
Manager
Clinical Access and Redesign
Unit, HSCI
Telephone: 3328 9170
File Ref: HC004341
Refers to DG076160

Dear

Thank you for your email dated 7 January 2015, in relation to peritonectomy surgery in Australia. I understand you originally wrote to the former Premier of Queensland, however, I am responding on behalf of the Director-General, Queensland Health, given the intervening caretaker period and change in government. Please accept my apologies for the delay in writing to you.

I am very sorry to hear of your ill health and need for complex peritonectomy surgery. I am also disappointed to hear your surgery was delayed a number of times. I note Dr Richard Ashby has separately written to you regarding your treatment and care at the Princess Alexandra Hospital.

Thank you for sharing your view that peritonectomy surgery in Australia should be supported by the Nationally Funded Centre (NFC) arrangements. As you will be aware, NFC technologies are high-cost, highly-specialised, low-volume procedures provided at one or a limited number of sites in Australia to ensure they are delivered safely, efficiently and effectively.

I understand a national review of peritonectomy procedures in Australia is planned, with a view to ensuring patients have access to appropriate, safe and quality care. Part of this review will be to develop and confirm a model of care, indications for treatment and patient selection criteria. I am advised the NSW Ministry of Health is expected to lead this review project. Queensland will contribute to the national review to support access to appropriate and safe care for Queensland patients.

If you require further information please contact Kaye Hewson, Manager, Clinical Access and Redesign Unit on telephone 3328 9170.

Yours sincerely

Dr Bill Kingswell
**A/Deputy Director-General,
Health Service and Clinical Innovation Division**
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Office
Level 2
15 Butterfield Street
HERSTON QLD 4006

Postal
GPO Box 48
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Phone
(07) 3328 9170

Email
CARU@health.qld.gov.au