

BUNDABERG HOSPITAL COMMISSION OF INQUIRY

STATEMENT OF DR JAMES PETER BOYD

1. I, **DR JAMES PETER BOYD** Principal House Officer, c/- Princess Alexandra Hospital, Ipswich Road, Brisbane in the State of Queensland, acknowledge that this written statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

2. I have made a previous statement to the Commission of Inquiry which is dated 17 June 2005. Since signing that statement, I have had the opportunity to read the statements of P99 and P126. In relation to those statements I comment as follows:

P99

3. In relation to paragraph 11, I do recall seeing this patient in the outpatient clinic. The quote she states "we can pack that" refers to a method of dressing the wound. It was a small and superficial wound that was best dealt with in the outpatients. It did not require a general anaesthetic. I do not recall Janice Williams raising her eyebrows, or understand why she would do this, as it was a normal practice to not use a general anaesthetic.

4. In relation to paragraph 12, the patient describes the wound as having reopened. This is what happens in a situation where there is a seroma or infection and is what I would have aimed to achieve. I cannot recall what Janice Williams may or may not have said about not looking at the wound.

5. In relation to paragraph 13, I asked Janice Williams and/or one of the other nurses to pack the wound which helps to clean and cover the wound. The dressing would have been bulky because it has to absorb the fluid coming from the wound.

6. In relation to paragraph 14, I do believe Dr Patel and I did review her wound and decided to place holding sutures to keep the wound together. I did use

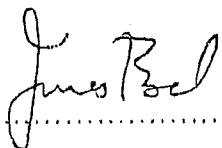
local anaesthetic and put several stitches in. Some sensation is still felt with local anaesthetic and she may have felt pressure rather than sharp pain. She was anxious and nervous all this time.

7. In relation to paragraph 15, I do not recall her screaming or begging me to stop as this would not be accepted in any way. She did have tears more from anxiety and fear thus I had at least 2 other nurses to hold her hand and comfort her. No one in any way held her in a restraining manner. I do believe her partner was in the room also at the time.
8. In relation to paragraph 16, I do not recall Janice pointing at me about pain relief. If she had done this I would certainly have remembered this up to this time. Nurses often ask us for more pain relief and I believe this may have been the case as P99 complained her migraine was flaring. Pethidine was given I believe to treat this. I would not routinely give pethidine beforehand as most people do not require it and it means patients have to be kept back for 4 hours for observation prior to going home.
9. In relation to paragraph 19, I can recall seeing P99 later but not the exact dates. The stitches were only holding sutures and served to hold the wound together. Some sutures do come apart at varying times. I do not recall her having a serious "Golden Staph" infection as she claims. The organism grown on the swab was a normal skin organism. The treatment given was local dressing care. Intravenous antibiotics were not required.
10. In relation to paragraph 20, I do not recall her asking about the infection and its cause. At that stage I believe we continued with regular dressings and allowed for the wound to heal secondarily. This would take a few weeks.
11. In relation to paragraph 29, I did work in Bundaberg for 12 months. Most of my colleagues work for 6 months and return to Brisbane. It is possible Dr Nydam may have thought I was only there for 6 months. I was also off work for 2 months around September after tearing my achilles tendon.

P 126

12. In relation to paragraphs 13 to 16, I cannot respond to these matters as I was not working at the Bundaberg Base Hospital in June 2003. My only involvement with this patient was as stated in my previous statement dated June 2005.

Signed at **Brisbane** on 29 June 2005.



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Dr James Peter Boyd
Principal House Officer/Surgery
Princess Alexandra Hospital