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Queensland Health

MEMORANDUM

To: District Manager, Princess Alexandra Hospital and Health Service District

Copies to: Zonal Manager

From: General Manager (Health Services) **Contact No:** (07)
Fax No: (07)

Subject: **Elective Surgery and Total Surgery Targets 2002/03**

In April 2003, I wrote to all District Managers accessing funding from the Access to Surgery program, stressing the need to achieve both the Elective Surgery and Total Surgery activity targets in 2002/03. A reconciliation of activity reported against funded activity targets for 2002/03 will be conducted on the finalisation of the hospital morbidity data, anticipated to be in September 2003.

A review of your coded hospital morbidity data submitted to date has revealed a significant increase in patient reclassification from emergency to elective presentations, where the patient was admitted and undergoes surgery. The effect of this reclassification is to maximise activity that can be claimed against specific surgical access funding and a reduction in the total volume of surgical work performed. The practice is of concern and may contravene the principle of additional elective surgery funding providing additional elective surgery activity.

As such, you will be contacted by the Manager, Surgical Access Service in the week beginning 25 August 2003 to arrange an appointment time for discussions on this matter. The meeting will be attended by the Zonal Manager or nominee, and you will be required to provide explanations for this practice. Your responses will influence the final funding arrangements for 2002/03 and funding allocations for 2003/04.

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EA - ZM	
MSZMU	
ESO	
Team Leader - Business - Clinical - Service Dept - Mental Health	

(Dr) Steve Buckland
General Manager (Health Services)
21 05 / 2003

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