

Email exchange between Dr Nick O'Rourke
and senior medical administrators in August 2016

WVB-2

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From: hugh mcgregor hugh_mcgregor@iprimus.com.au
Subject: FW: Sexual harassment at Redcliffe Hospital
Date: 17 August 2016 9:15 am
To: William Braun williamvbraun@gmail.com

From: Denise MacGregor [mailto:Denise.MacGregor@health.qld.gov.au]
Sent: Wednesday, 17 August 2016 8:44 AM
To: Hugh McGregor (hugh_mcgregor@iprimus.com.au)
Subject: FW: Sexual harassment at Redcliffe Hospital

Fyi
Denise

From: Nicholas O'Rourke [mailto:orourke.nick@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, 10 August 2016 4:59 PM
To: Craig Margetts
Cc: Judy Graves; Jason Jenkins; Barry O'Loughlin; Philip Truskett; Richard Bryant; Michael Donovan; Donna OSullivan; carinac@med.usyd.edu.au; Denise MacGregor
Subject: Re: Sexual harassment at Redcliffe Hospital

Thank you Craig
I appreciate your concern regarding this matter, and understand that the timing of complaints is important.
I think it is appropriate for you, Carina and Denise to investigate further.
I shall leave things to you guys for now.
Thanks again
Nick

On 10 Aug 2016, at 4:44 PM, Craig Margetts
<Craig.Margetts@health.qld.gov.au> wrote:

Thank you Nick for speaking with me just now on the telephone and to provide your insights.

As agreed I will discuss this with Denise MacGregor and together we will contact Carina Chow to ascertain her views and in particular to see if there have been any new allegations since the matter was formally investigated.

I am happy to discuss further by telephone given the nature of the issues raised.

Kind Regards

Dr Craig Margetts MBBS, MBA, FRACMA
Director of Medical Services
Redcliffe Hospital and CISS
Anzac Avenue
Redcliffe Qld 4020
Ph: (07) 3383 7586
craig.margetts@health.qld.gov.au
www.health.qld.gov.au/metronorth

Metro North Hospital and Health Service
<image001.jpg>

From: Nicholas O'Rourke [<mailto:orourke.nick@gmail.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, 10 August 2016 3:55 PM
To: Craig Margetts
Cc: Judy Graves; jason.jenkins@health.qld.gov.au; Barry O'Loughlin; Philip Truskett;
 Richard Bryant; Michael Donovan; Donna O'Sullivan; carinac@med.usyd.edu.au
Subject: Re: Sexual harassment at Redcliffe Hospital

Craig,

There appear to be ongoing issues.

I do not know the details of the formal review.

I believe that a dossier of abuse was shown to Dr MacGregor (Director of Surgery) early last year.

I repeat, that one of our senior trainees, after 8 years of surgical training and passing her fellowship exams, was prepared to give up surgery, rather than go back to work at Redcliffe.

I am very upset about this, and am prepared to take this all the way!

At the same time, I wish to protect the young women, already traumatised by their experiences at your hospital.

Nick O'Rourke

On 10 Aug 2016, at 3:07 PM, Craig Margetts
 <Craig.Margetts@health.qld.gov.au> wrote:

Thank you for your email Judy and Hello Nick

There was a formal review of such matters two years ago and this matter was formally processed via the appropriate mechanisms and since that time we have not had further issues raised that I am aware of - I would be most interested to hear of any recurrence.

To assist me could you provide any indication whether these represent new allegations over those which were formally and externally reviewed so that I can see if they have been addressed or if they are new/recurrent matters.

In the interim I will review the earlier report to see if these issues were included.

Kind Regards

Dr Craig Margetts MBBS, MBA, FRACMA
 Director of Medical Services
 Redcliffe Hospital and CISS
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 Redcliffe Qld 4020
 Ph: (07) 3383 7586
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Metro North Hospital and Health Service
 <image001.jpg>

Hj Nick and Jason

This is serious and definitely needs action. It should be handled by the EDMS at Redcliffe in conjunction with HR so I have copied my counterpart at Redcliffe Craig Margetts into this. I am sure he will contact you to start the process.

I will also follow up directly with Craig and Donna O'Sullivan. (EDMS Metronorth) Judy

> On 9 Aug 2016, at 10:12 PM, Nicholas O'Rourke

<orourke.nick@gmail.com> wrote:

>

> Jason,

> As discussed, please forward this to Ken Whelan and anyone else you think needs to know.

> I am furious.

> There is a surgeon (Will Braun) who has been harassing female trainees at Redcliffe for several years.

>

> A recent RACS fellowship passer, Brie Stephensen, has just told me she would have refused to continue in surgery, if sent to Redcliffe again for her final term! She reports serial unpleasant harassment.

>

> A female PHO in surgery complained of serious sexual harassment to Metro North 2 years ago. Brie and other trainees gave statements condemning his behaviour, to an "official enquiry", and nothing was done. I gather this girl has now given up surgery.

> Another female reported genital rubbing behaviour to the director of surgery at Redcliffe, when being "taught" colonoscopy, with the surgeons arms wrapped around her. Nothing was done, save "we better keep female trainees away from him".

>

> These girls feel scared to speak up, firstly for fear of being

> labelled as complainers, and secondly, because when they do, nothing

> is done. They feel betrayed. This is horrible. (Brie, having passed

> her fellowship and accepted on to colorectal training, is prepared to

> come forward, with my full support)

>

> I have spoken to many people about this and all seem to suggest it is someone else's problem,

> it is now my problem and your problem.

> This egregious behaviour pattern warrants mandatory reporting.

> I want the college, GSA and Metro North to act ASAP.

>

> Nick O'Rourke

> FRACS, (Examiner.)

> Chairman of General Surgery, RBWH

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