

**Queensland  
Government**

Queensland Health

Enquiries to: Patrick Walker  
A/Principal Project Officer  
Health Funding & Systems  
Development Branch

Telephone: 323 90978  
Facsimile: 323 41174  
Our Ref: 2000-0025-006

Ms C McDonald  
Acting Committee Secretary  
Legislation Committee, Australian Senate  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Ms McDonald

Thank you for your letter dated 10 December 2004 providing an opportunity for Queensland Health to comment on the National Health Amendment (Prostheses) Bill 2004.

Queensland Health has previously provided feedback in regards to the new prostheses arrangements to the Australian Government, Department of Health and Ageing. In this correspondence we noted that the new arrangements should provide a more standardised approach for the use and administration of prostheses for private patients in public hospitals. Queensland Health also expressed concern that the level of private patient co-payments may become excessive and that wherever possible the most widely used prostheses should be included as no-gap items on the new Prostheses Schedule.

Queensland Health looks forward to the release of the new Prostheses Schedule in 2005. We understand the schedule will clearly outline the maximum amounts that public hospitals will be reimbursed from Health Funds for the cost of private patient prostheses (both gap and no-gap).

If you have any further queries, please contact Mr Patrick Walker, A/Principal Project Officer, Health Funding and Systems Development Branch on (07) 323 90978.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'AT' or similar initials.

Anne Turner  
Senior Executive Director  
Health Funding and Systems Development Branch

24/01/2005

Office  
Queensland Health  
147 - 163 Charlotte Street  
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Postal  
GPO Box 48  
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Phone  
(07) 323 90978.

Fax  
(07) 323 41174.