



Medical Board of Queensland

ABN: 35 789 357 327

27 February 2009

As chair of the Medical Board of Queensland I feel compelled to provide clarification for readers following the publication of Bill Loudon's letter (24 February News Mail).

While the Medical Board of Queensland is responsible for the registration of medical practitioners in this state, the credentialing of a practitioner for a particular health care position is outside the scope of the Board's activities.

As part of the registration process the Board performs scrupulous checks to ensure applicants are suitable for registration. The checks include verifying qualifications and experience and any disciplinary action taken against an applicant throughout their practice history.

Members of the public can easily check the registration details of all Queensland medical practitioners by searching the public register available on the Medical Board website at www.medicalboard.qld.gov.au

As for credentialing, the onus of verifying a practitioner's level of competence to perform a particular health service rests with the employing health facility, including public and private hospitals.

It is the discretion of the facility's Credentialing and Scope of Clinical Practice Committee to determine the scope of a practitioner's practice based on the qualifications, experience and professional standing of the applicant; taking into consideration the support services, staffing, clinical equipment and supervision available for a position function.

The Board has no involvement in the recruitment and resourcing activities of health care facilities, and again this includes public and private facilities.

However, where concerns are raised regarding the professional conduct of a practitioner, the Medical Board will intervene, investigate and determine the appropriate action required to ensure the safety and well being of the public.

Dr E Mary Cohn
Chair
Medical Board of Queensland