



Medical Board of Queensland

ABN: 35 789 357 327

MEDIA STATEMENT

13 March 2008

Brisbane doctor suspended for misconduct

A Brisbane general practitioner had his registration suspended for two months today, after the Medical Board of Queensland sought disciplinary action through the Health Practitioners Tribunal.

The Board had sought a six month suspension of Dr Alan Hadley's registration following an investigation into a complaint about his dealings and treatment of a patient.

In 2003, Dr Hadley exploited his professional relationship with a patient by introducing her to an investment scheme in which his son had an interest and then coordinating the patient's investment in the scheme.

Dr Hadley also prescribed controlled and/or restricted drugs of dependency to the same patient when, having treated her for more than three years at the time, he would have been aware of her history of overuse of prescription medication.

The Tribunal found this to constitute unsatisfactory professional conduct.

Following his suspension, Dr Hadley will also be subject to conditions that relate to the prescription and supply of controlled drugs for patients. Details of these conditions are available on the public register on the Medical Board of Queensland's website: www.medicalboard.qld.gov.au.

Chair of the Medical Board, Dr Mary Cohn, said the suspension and conditions placed on Dr Hadley should remind all medical practitioners of their professional responsibilities, both clinical and ethical, in the treatment of patients.

"Doctors need to be aware of their professional boundaries when dealing with vulnerable patients," Dr Cohn said.

"It's important that doctors establish and maintain a relationship of trust with their patients, but that trust should never be abused."

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