



Queensland Health

Enquiries to: [REDACTED]
Manager
Workforce Relations and Policy,
Human Resources Branch
Telephone: [REDACTED]
File Ref: C-ECTF-28/10256

Associate Professor Erica Gannon
President
AMA Queensland

Dr Brett Dale
Chief Executive Officer
AMA Queensland

Email: [REDACTED]

Dear Associate Professor Gannon and Dr Dale

Thank you for your letter dated 3 June 2026, regarding Hospital and Health Services (HHSs) requesting senior medical officers (SMOs) to confirm they hold professional indemnity insurance (PII), to provide services to patients who elect to be treated privately in the public health system. I note that this is creating concern amongst Queensland Health's SMO workforce.

Your understanding of the 'Indemnity for Queensland Health medical practitioners HR Policy 12' (HR Policy 12) is correct. SMOs are indemnified under HR Policy 12 for the clinical management of both public and private patients when undertaking their duties for Queensland Health, unless specifically excluded in the policy. HR Policy 12 (Attachment One) outlines the extent of indemnity provided to SMOs for private patients, noting SMOs are fully covered for granted private practice. There is not a requirement for a SMO to hold their own PII for granted private practice work.

In the situation an SMO also conducts their own private practice, separate to their granted private practice under their HHS employment and outside of their HHS working hours, the SMO requires their own PII and other relevant insurances for those private undertakings. If an SMO is accessing HHS facilities to undertake such private work, the SMO must provide and can be requested to produce copies of their PII and other insurance certificates to the HHS under their licensed private practice agreement.

I can advise that I have engaged with the HHSs reiterating that SMOs are indemnified by Queensland Health when treating public and private patients as part of their HHS employment and that there is no requirement for a SMO to hold their own PII for that work.

Should you require further information, Queensland Health's contact is [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Manager, Workforce Relations and Policy, Human Resources Branch, on
telephone [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

Matthew Rigby
Deputy Director-General
Corporate Services Division
24 / 06 / 2026

Cc: Erin O'Donnell, General Manager – Policy, Media, Communications and Marketing, AMAO:

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