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**Queensland Health**

Enquiries to: Kylie Guthrie  
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Reporting Integrity & Policy  
Services  
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Professor John McMillan AO  
Australian Information Commissioner  
Office of the Australian Privacy Commissioner  
GPO Box 5218  
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Professor McMillan

I refer to your consultation request dated 21 October 2011 inviting submissions on the Public Interest Determination (PID) application lodged by Dr Steve Hambleton, President of the Australian Medical Association, relating to the collection of third party health information by health service providers, without the consent of the third party.

Queensland Health fully supports Dr Hambleton's application for a continuation of PID 10 and 10a. Continuation of these PIDs is justified, as it would enable practitioners to continue to provide services without compromising patient care.

Queensland Health does not believe the proposed practice is likely to harm the interest of the individual, as long as the information collected by the health service provider is restricted only to that which is required to provide care and treatment to the patient. There may be individuals who believe that this practice is at odds with their expectation of privacy, however the clear public interest in relation to early diagnosis and treatment of inherited genetic conditions can be demonstrated.

Should you require further information please contact Ms Kylie Guthrie, Manager, Reporting Integrity and Policy Services on telephone (07) 3224 7825.

Yours sincerely

Susan Horton  
**Executive Director**  
**Performance Improvement and Policy Services**

11/11/2011