



Newsletter: 235/2018
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NSWA shows little trust in the most trusted profession

ADHSU has received messages from delegates who are concerned that NSW has apparently introduced an MDT that records the activation of lights and sirens.

Yet again, NSW has introduced a change without a modicum of consultation. There is little chance that the introduction of technology that will allow them to track when you have your warning devices on or off is designed to make paramedics lives easier.

If we do nothing and allow this change to stand, you can count on NSW using the information to discipline members in one way or another.

They still haven't provided EMRs that are fit for purpose, continue to tell us they don't have the technology to measure crib break performance, yet they can introduce technology that spies on staff.

Paramedics are professionals. Professionals carry an amount of discretion and judgement in the conduct of their duties. If you feel in the circumstances that its unsafe and ProQA got it wrong, and or the actual context of the situation does not call for lights and sirens, then you shouldn't use them.

The final call must remain with the paramedics on the ground.

This is yet another example of an employer who seems to distrust its workforce on an industrial scale.

Here are some of the other examples: random drug and alcohol testing, requiring paramedics to explain why they are still in the off-stretcher phase at the 15-minute mark (even if it's to go to the toilet), putting call takers through the mental stress of auto answering triple zero calls (because taking a moment to collect your thoughts before the next call is not efficient enough), and withholding crib penalties unless you provide evidence of a missed crib.

There's not a lot of trust in one of the most self-motivated workforces in Australia is there?

We will seek urgent consultation about this issue and get back to you.

Stuart Hatter
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