

Port Macquarie Base Hospital: Privatisation rears its head again

Dear Member,

The HSU has received correspondence from Port Macquarie Base Hospital management, outlining that the ongoing privatisation of medical imaging services has now progressed further. The PMBH has written to the HSU informing that Imed, a multinational conglomerate based in the United Kingdom, will be employing and utilising private wardspersons to undertake patient transfers to and from the medical imaging department.

This decision contradicts previous correspondence from MNCLHD advising that NO impact would occur on services provided by MNCLHD staff. The HSU condemns this decision.

As a result of this decision, effective **midnight Saturday 1st December 2018**, no HSU member is to

- Assist in the transfer of patients in or out of the medical imaging department
- Assist any worker that is privately employed to undertake the portering of patients or duties inside of the medical imaging department
- Undertake any other services (allied health services, cleaning services, administration services, food service provisions) to the medical imaging department
- Undertake the process of billing of patients, the collation of private health insurance details or any other function that assists in revenue raising for PMBH for patients requiring medical imaging services, either as inpatients or outpatients.

A meeting of members is to take place at 1230 in the courtyard between Wards 1A and 1B on Wednesday 5 December. **All members are encouraged to attend.** At this meeting, members will be called upon to endorse further action to condemn the MNCLHD and PMBH for this act of betrayal to you as public health workers and again some 25 years later, to the people of the Port Macquarie/Hastings district.

In unity,



Gerard Hayes
Secretary, HSU NSW/ACT/QLD