

## Urgent Update re PMBH Bans

Dear Member,

The HSU is of the understanding that a document has been circulated across the Port Macquarie Base Hospital from the General Manager's office. This document apparently informs the reader that following "consultation", our members are to transfer patients to the medical imaging department.

The HSU reminds members that the resolution endorsed by the sub branch and broadcast in the [previous update](#) remains in force. The HSU and delegates, including the sub branch executive and representatives from HASA members, did meet with PMBH management on Friday 6 December. The HSU outlined the resolution and clearly articulated the members' position, calling for PMBH management to undertake urgent recruitment to the HASA positions referred to in the resolution. The PMBH refuses to do so.

The PMBH also took issue with the wardsperson/orderly positions advertised by iMed and refuted that these private contractors are portering patients. Clearly, this is incorrect. In addition, the HSU is aware that the position description for these private contractors also require them to transfer patients from the wards into the medical imaging department. The position description also requires the contractors to clean the department – yet another duty that has been removed from public health workers.

In the meeting the PMBH management referred to iMed as "specialists" in medical imaging. When the HSU put to management that the HASAs and wardspersons employed by public health are the "specialists" and asked why it agreed to privatising the roles, PMBH offered no response and failed to acknowledge the duties performed by members at this facility over the past 24 years. The resolution endorsed has **not** been altered or relaxed, no matter what misleading documentation has been produced.

The HSU fully supports members who are adhering to the resolution, and applauds the way members have conducted themselves under intense pressure from other workers and managers. Truly you are demonstrating how we Stand Up and Fight Back!

In unity,



Gerard Hayes  
Secretary, HSU NSW/ACT/QLD