

HSA Work to Rule Still in Effect

Dear Member,

HSU would like to remind our members that the following resolutions passed by the Maitland Hospital sub-branch at their March meeting are still in effect.

1. That all HSU members will strictly work according to the policies and procedures of The Maitland Hospital and the Ministry of Health including as follows.
2. Two security qualified staff are to be available to guard a patient, in accordance with a ratio of two guards per one patient.
3. When more than one patient needs guarding, management need to call in additional security qualified staff to guard that patient as per the ratio. And if no staff are available, a decision needs to be made by a clinician as to which patient is the priority.
4. No HSU member will take part in a 'take down' unless there is five PMVA trained staff members present and willing to assist. However, HSU members will intervene if there is immediate threat to a person's safety and if the member present feels safe to intervene.
5. No HSU member will be doing escorts from one hospital to the next.

This is not about HSA members not wanting to perform their duties, but about being sure that there are enough security qualified staff present to safely perform their role. Currently, there are often no more than three such staff on shift at a time. The HSAs take their role seriously, with the utmost pride and dedication to keeping other staff, patients, visitors, and themselves safe.

It's important that members stand together with each other. 'United we stand, divided we fall'. If you have any concerns or questions please contact your HSU organiser Matt Ramsay on 0419 553 105 or email matthew.ramsay@hsu.asn.au.

In unity,



Gerard Hayes
Secretary, HSU NSW/ACT/QLD