



Hon Steven Miles MP
Minister for Health and
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Mr Neil Laurie
Clerk of the Parliament
Queensland Parliamentary Service
George Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Mr Laurie

I write in response to your letter regarding petition number 3194-19, tabled in Parliament on 17 September 2019, in relation to medical specialists in the Rockhampton region, specifically those who treat Parkinson's disease.

I am advised the Central Queensland Hospital and Health Service (CQHHS) data indicates over the past two financial years there has been approximately \$430,000 spent in patient travel subsidies to those persons seeking neurology specialist services in Brisbane.

The CQHHS aims to provide Central Queenslanders with access to services closer to home, reducing the need to travel to Brisbane. The provision of a neurology service is one of the services that CQHHS is looking to offer at Rockhampton Hospital, as work continues on the development of Rockhampton Hospital as a regional hub for Central Queensland.

I understand Rockhampton Hospital is currently negotiating with a neurologist to commence providing services to Central Queensland in the new year. Once arrangements have been formalised, General Practitioners and the community will be notified, and the service will be advertised as a service that will be available locally.

I trust this information is of assistance to the petitioners.

Yours sincerely

STEVEN MILES MP
Minister for Health
Minister for Ambulance Services