



Hon Yvette D'Ath MP
Minister for Health and Ambulance Services
Leader of the House

1 William Street Brisbane
GPO Box 48 Brisbane
Queensland 4001 Australia
Telephone +61 7 3719 7400
Email health@ministerial.qld.gov.au

8 APR 2021

Mr Neil Laurie
Clerk of the Parliament
Queensland Parliamentary Service
George Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Mr Laurie

Neil

I write in response to your letter regarding petition number 3459-21, tabled in Parliament on 9 March 2021, in relation to ventriculoperitoneal (VP) shunts in children.

I am very sorry to hear of the loss of Lucas Faram and acknowledge how distressing this must be for his family. I extend my deepest sympathies to them.

I would like to assure that the safety of patients is a priority for Queensland Health. All hospitals in Queensland Health are required to be accredited against National Safety and Quality in Health Service Standards. The standards provide a nationally consistent statement about the level of care consumers can expect from health services. Through assessment against these standards, we can have confidence that health care in Queensland is safe and effective. The standards also ensure there are mechanisms to continually improve the quality of health service provision.

The clinical incident this petition relates to is still under a senior multidisciplinary clinical review as part of Townsville Hospital and Health Service's patient safety process. Until this clinical review has been completed, Queensland Health is unable to provide further advice.

I trust this information is of assistance to the petitioners.

Yours sincerely

Yvette D'Ath

YVETTE D'ATH MP
Minister for Health and Ambulance Services
Leader of the House