

HEALTH ALERT

19 June 2017

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JUDGMENTS

Key decisions

9 June 2017 - *Health Services Union v St John of God Health Care* [2017] FWC 2981 - Alleged dispute arising under an enterprise agreement. Whether consultation required and taken place; whether comparable alternative employment found; whether redundancy payments required.

This decision concerns a proceeding brought by the Health Services Union against the respondent for a failure to consult with the union about its decision to make medical scientists and laboratory technicians redundant in the pathology laboratories of the respondent. The respondent sold its pathology division, and its employees were offered employment opportunities by the purchasing clinical laboratory. The applicant contended that in circumstances where the employees had been made redundant by the respondent, it had an obligation to hold discussions with the applicant regarding ameliorating the impact of the redundancies upon the Union's members, and make severance payment pursuant to the enterprise agreement.

The Commission dismissed the application and held in favour of the respondent. It held that there had been substantial compliance on the part of the respondent to consult with employees and their union in respect of its decision. This took form in the various ways the respondent had made the announcement including a public media release, correspondence to the Medical Scientists Association of Victoria and the Union, staff meetings and a memorandum to affected staff. The Commission further held that there was no entitlement to severance pay as the agreement noted that severance payments are not payable in the event of a transmission of business where comparable alternative employment is offered and accepted, as it was the case in this dispute.

9 June 2017 - *Inquest into the death of Ahlia Raftery* 2015/84416 - CORONIAL LAW, self-inflicted death, adolescent mental health, psychiatric intensive care unit, Mater Mental Health Centre, transfer of care, patient observation levels, risk assessment, handover process, ISBAR, nurse-to-patient ratios, back-to-base pulse oximetry.

The Coronial inquest was into the death of Ahlia Raftery, who committed suicide while a patient in the psychiatric care unit of a mental health facility. The deceased had a history of persistent suicidal thoughts and past attempts at self-harm. She was transferred between mental health services and units because of rapid and unexpected deteriorations in her condition during her admission.

The Coroner's investigations focused on the shortcomings in the deceased's care in the lead up to her death. The nurses who gave evidence at the inquest indicated that they were unaware of the deceased's attempts of self-harm. The Coroner was critical that a comprehensive history of all previous self-harm by a patient was not conveyed during each handover, because such information would have heightened the awareness of the nurses regarding the risk the deceased posed to herself.

While the facility undertook policy implementations to address such issues, the Coroner identified that specific targeted training in relation to changes in patient care policies were still necessary. Another shortcoming identified by the Coroner was the likelihood that the deceased was not observed at intervals of 15 minutes, as required. The Coroner identified that part of the ineffectiveness in the observations stemmed from a number of inconsistencies in the way in which the observations were conducted and recorded. The Coroner recommended that observations be recorded at the time they were performed to ensure accuracy and consistency in recording.

Commonwealth. Fair Work Commission

9 June 2017 - *Health Services Union v G4S Australia T/A G4S Australia* [2017] FWC 3161 - Proposed protected action ballot of employees of G4S Australia.

9 June 2017 - *Star Physiotherapy Pty Ltd T/A Back In Motion Health Group – Bribie Island* [2017] FWCA 3182 - Application for approval of the Back In Motion Health Group Bribie Island Enterprise Agreement 2017.

9 June 2017 - *Star Physiotherapy Pty Ltd T/A Back In Motion Health Group – South Bank* [2017] FWCA 3184 - Application for approval of the Back In Motion Health Group South Bank Enterprise Agreement 2017.

9 June 2017 - *Nathan Salvemini v The Trustee for the Heron Family Property Trust & Oths T/A Auscare Retirement Community* [2017] FWC 3174 - Application for an unfair dismissal remedy – failure to participate in proceedings – s.399A application – application dismissed.

New South Wales

9 June 2017 - *Kirby v Dental Council of NSW (No 2)* [2017] NSWCATOD 89 - Costs – appellant from a 150 decision of Council entirely unsuccessful – no question of principle.

15 June 2017 - *Health Care Complaints Commission v Ledner* [2017] NSWCATOD 90 - Health Practitioner Regulation National Law –psychologist – complaints of inappropriate and sexual conduct with former patient – complaints of unsatisfactory professional conduct and professional misconduct admitted.

15 June 2017 - *Health Care Complaints Commission v Choi (No 2)* [2017] NSWCATOD 91 - Costs - no question of principle.

Victoria

9 June 2017 - *Medical Board of Australia v Griffiths (Review and Regulation)* [2017] VCAT 822 - Review and Regulation List – medical practitioner – inappropriate prescription and medical treatment – prescription of opioids and benzodiazepines – inappropriate treatment of persons with whom shared a close personal relationship – breach of S8 permit obligations – agreed facts and findings and joint proposed determinations – Medical Practice Act 1994 (Vic) s 3(1), Health Professions Registration Act 2005 (Vic) s 3(1), Health Practitioner Regulation National Law (Victoria) Act 2009 (Vic) s 5(a).

9 June 2017 - *Pierides (a minor who sues by his Litigation Guardian Emile Pierides) v Monash Health (formerly known as Southern Health)* [2017] VSC 326 - PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE – Interrogatories – Rule 30.12 of Supreme Court (General Civil Procedure) Rules 2015 (Vic) – noncompliance with orders - delay – usefulness of interrogatories – missing document – potential vacation of trial date – Application allowed.

LEGISLATION

As a general rule, this bulletin tracks subsidiary legislation at Commonwealth, but not at state level

Commonwealth

16 June 2017 - *Health Insurance (General Medical Services Table) Amendment (Bulk-Billed Services) Regulations 2017* F2017L00682 • as made.

16 June 2017 - *Health Insurance (General Medical Services Table) Regulations 2017* F2017L00680 • as made.

16 June 2017 - *Health Insurance (Diagnostic Imaging Services Table) Regulations 2017* F2017L00679 • as made.

16 June 2017 - Ministers of State Amendment Regulations 2017 F2017L00678 • as made.

16 June 2017 - *Health Insurance (Pathology Services Table) Regulations 2017* F2017L00677 • as made.

16 June 2017 - National Health (Weighted average disclosed price – October 2017 reduction day) Determination 2017 (PB 44 of 2017) F2017L00676 • PB 44 of 2017 as made.

15 June 2017 - National Health (Subsection 84C(7)) Amendment Determination 2017 (No. 1) (PB 52 of 2017) F2017L00671 • PB 52 of 2017 as made.

15 June 2017 - Private Health Insurance (Registration) Rules 2017 (No 2) F2017L00670 • as made

15 June 2017 - Health Insurance Legislation Revocation (2017 Measures No.1) Determination 2017 F2017L00668 • as made.

Australian Capital Territory

15 June 2017 - Gene Technology Amendment Bill 2017 - Assent.

Queensland

13 June - Health Practitioner Regulation National Law and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2017 - Introduced.

REPORTS

Australia. Department of Health

Media releases

15 June 2017 - New Board Appointment for the Organ and Tissue Donation and Transplantation Authority - Minister for Aged Care and Indigenous Health, Ken Wyatt, announced Dr Mal Washer as the inaugural chair of the newly established Australian Organ and Tissue Donation and Transplantation Board, effective 1 July 2017.

15 June 2017 - **Providing \$400,000 life-saving drug to Australian kids with rare disease** - The Australian Government will provide a life-saving treatment to Australian patients who have a rare medical condition known as Morquio A Syndrome, at no cost.

14 June 2017 - Roll Up Your Sleeves for a Worthy Cause - It's World Blood Donor Day — and we are being encouraged to roll up our sleeves and donate for a worthy cause.

12 June 2017 - **Supporting Big Freeze 3 with \$2 million for MND clinical trials** - The Australian Government is proud to be supporting clinical trials into new life-changing treatments and to help find a cure for Motor Neurone Disease (MND).

10 June 2017 - Barunga Festival: Don't Make Smokes Your Story - The Don't Make Smokes Your Story campaign is empowering Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to quit smoking.

Australia. Health Practitioner Regulation Agency and the boards

14 June 2017 - Vodcasts of Self-assessment and reflection forums now online - Self-regulation of learning for chiropractors plays an important role in professional behavior.

Australia. National Health & Medical Research Council (NHMRC)

NHMRC Research Tracker—16 June 2017

Australia. Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme

9 June 2017 - Post-Market Review of the Use of Biologics in the Treatment of Severe Chronic Plaque Psoriasis – Public Consultation Process - The public consultation process on the Post-Market Review of the Use of Biologics in the Treatment of Severe Chronic Plaque Psoriasis has now closed.

Australia. Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA)

15 June 2017 - Australian Public Assessment Reports for prescription medicines (AusPARs) - Added Methotrexate (TREXJECT IN).

14 June 2017 - **Targeted project: Macular degeneration** - Complementary Medicines Section is starting a new compliance review project on listed medicines that reference 'Macular Degeneration'.

14 June 2017 - New MedSearch app is now available for download - The CMI and PI app was created as part of the Health IT Graduate Program.

13 June 2017 - Submissions received: Designation of Australian conformity assessment bodies for medical devices - The TGA would like to thank respondents who provided submissions in response to the November 2016 public consultation paper.

13 June 2017 - Fees and charges: summary - from 1 July 2017 - A summary of the fees and charges that will apply from 1 July 2017.

13 June 2017 - Notification of a new proprietary ingredient - Updated form incorporating changes to legislation and guidelines.

13 June 2017 - Slimming Capsule - Reduce Fat - Slimming Capsule - Reduce Fat pose a serious risk to your health and should not be taken.

13 June 2017 - Important annual charge deadlines - Financial information and important dates 2017.

13 June 2017 - Medical devices and IVDs: Suspensions from the ARTG - Suspension.

Australian Institute of Health & Welfare

16 June 2017 - Mental health services in Australia release tranche 3, 2017.

14 June 2017 - media release: Cancer impacting Australia's health more than any other group of diseases.

Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care

On the Radar - 13 June 2017 - Issue 325 (PDF 208KB) (Word 150KB)

New South Wales (NSW). Ministry of Health

Media Releases

13 June 2017 - Regional NSW to benefit from record \$100 million palliative care package - Hundreds of regional and rural frontline health staff will be able to upskill and deliver palliative care services to their local communities under new Budget measures outlined by the Minister for Health, Brad Hazzard and Parliamentary Secretary for Rural and Regional Health, Leslie Williams.

'We are tackling the need for specialist training through training nurses and allied health frontline workers who currently work in our rural and regional communities, and also boosting funding for additional specialist doctors and nurses for new positions in regional health districts,' Mr Hazzard said.

13 June 2017 - **NSW Budget: record \$100m palliative care funding** - The NSW Government will provide record funding for palliative care across NSW to support people suffering terminal illness and their families.

Premier Gladys Berejiklian, Treasurer Dominic Perrottet and Minister for Health Brad Hazzard said the upcoming NSW Budget will invest an additional \$100 million in palliative care services over the next four years.

'From additional nurses in frontline palliative care to funding for 24-hour community care services, this is a package of funding that will have a powerful and tangible impact across the State,' Ms Berejiklian said.

13 June 2017 - **NSW Budget: New world-class hospital for Tweed Heads** - The spotlight is on the Tweed community with a new, state-of-the-art hospital to cater for the region's growing population.

Treasurer Dominic Perrottet, Deputy Premier John Barilaro, Minister for Health Brad Hazzard and Tweed MP Geoff Provest today visited the Tweed Hospital and announced the 2017-18 Budget includes funding of up to \$534 million for a new hospital in the Tweed region.

Policy Directives & Guidelines

14 June 2017 - NSW Health Admission Policy - Document number: PD2017_015.

14 June 2017 - Public Health Act 2010 - Notification of Fees - Document number: IB2017_013.

Information Bulletins

Northern Territory. Department of Health

15 June 2017 - Trauma centre provides medical team to Supercars - The National Critical Care and Trauma Response Centre (NCCTRC) will provide a medical team to support the Supercars event at Hidden Valley this weekend. The Minister for Health Natasha Fyles said this year marks the 20th year of the Darwin event, that is expected to attract large crowds of locals and tourists over the 3 days of racing.

14 June 2017 - Pit Stop for People - Encouraging Men to Get Health Checks - The Territory Labor Government is urging Territory Men to get their bodies checked out as often as they would their car – with

a dedicated 'Pit Stop' for people being offered at today's Men's Health Expo in Darwin. The Assistant Minister for Veteran Affairs, Men's Policy and Sports and Community Events, Tony Sievers said the 'Pit Stop' is part of a range of programs being run to promote the National Men's Health Week (NMHW) event being held in Darwin.

Queensland. Department of Health

16 June 2017 - **\$15M Strategy to boost capacity during winter surge** - The Palaszczuk Government's \$15 million 2017 Winter Beds Strategy will boost Queensland's public hospital capacity to help manage an expected winter surge in presentations.

14 June 2017 - Why you should give blood: in the words of those who have - Have you ever thought about donating blood or plasma? This World Blood Donor Day, we've asked blood donors to share why they donate, and why they would encourage you to donate, too.

13 June 2017 - **\$5.8 million boost for South West hospital and health services -** South West Queensland residents will continue to receive high quality health care and hospital treatment with a \$5.8 million funding boost to the South West Hospital and Health Service as part of the 2017-18 State Budget.

13 June 2017 - **\$16.2M boost for North West hospital and health services** - Residents in North West Queensland will continue to receive high quality health care and hospital treatment with a \$16.2 million funding boost to the North West Hospital and Health Service as part of the 2017-18 State Budget.

13 June 2017 - Record budget for Torres and Cape hospital and health services - Torres and Cape residents will continue to receive high quality health care and hospital treatment with a record budget for the Torres and Cape Hospital and Health Service as part of the 2017-18 State Budget.

13 June 2017 - **\$158 million boost for Sunshine Coast hospital and health services** - Sunshine Coast residents will continue to receive high quality health care and hospital treatment with a \$158 million funding boost to the Sunshine Coast Hospital and Health Service as part of the 2017-18 State Budget.

13 June 2017 - **\$57.2 million boost for Mackay hospital and health services -** Residents in the Mackay region will continue to receive high quality health care and hospital treatment with a \$57.2 million funding boost to the Mackay Hospital and Health Service as part of the 2017-18 State Budget.

13 June 2017 - **\$57.2 million boost for Mackay hospital and health services -** Residents in the Mackay region will continue to receive high quality health care and hospital treatment with a \$57.2 million funding boost to the Mackay Hospital and Health Service as part of the 2017-18 State Budget.

13 June 2017 - **\$121 million boost for Metro South hospital and health services** - Health funding for the Metro South Hospital and Health Service will increase 5.5 per cent to \$2.315 billion next financial year, ensuring high quality care continues to be delivered to residents.

13 June 2017 - **\$71.6 million boost for Townsville hospital and health services** - North Queensland residents will continue to receive high quality health care and hospital treatment with a \$71.6 million funding boost to the Townsville Hospital and Health Service as part of the 2017-18 State Budget.

13 June 2017 - **\$57.4 million boost for Wide Bay hospital and health services -** Wide Bay residents will continue to receive high quality health care and hospital treatment with a \$57.4M funding boost to the Wide Bay Hospital and Health Service as part of the 2017-18 State Budget.

13 June 2017 - **\$5M boost for Central West hospital and health services** - Central West Queenslanders will continue to receive high quality health care and hospital treatment with a \$5 million funding boost to the Central West Hospital and Health Service as part of the 2017-18 State Budget.

13 June 2017 - **\$87.2 million boost for Darling Downs hospital and health services** - Darling Downs residents will continue to receive high quality health care and hospital treatment with an \$87.2 million funding boost to the Darling Downs Hospital and Health Service as part of the 2017-18 State Budget.

13 June 2017 - **\$107.3M boost for Gold Coast hospital and health services** - Gold Coast residents will continue to receive quality health care and hospital treatment with a \$107.3 million funding boost to the Gold Coast Hospital and Health Service as part of the 2017-18 State Budget.

13 June 2017 - **\$280 million boost for Metro North hospital and health services** - Health funding for Metro North Hospital and Health Service will increase by 11.7 per cent to \$2.666 billion next financial year, ensuring high quality care continues to be delivered to residents.

13 June 2017 - **\$128.9 million boost for Cairns and Hinterland hospital and health services** - Cairns and Hinterland residents will continue to receive quality health care and hospital treatment with a \$128.9 million funding boost to the Cairns and Hinterland Hospital and Health Service as part of the 2017-18 State Budget.

13 June 2017 - **\$34.8 million boost for Central Queensland hospital and health services** - Central Queenslanders will continue to receive high quality health care and hospital treatment with a \$34.8 million funding boost to the Central Queensland Hospital and Health Service as part of the 2017-18 State Budget.

13 June 2017 - **\$43 million boost for Children's Health Queensland services** - Funding for Children's Health Queensland Hospital and Health Service will increase \$43 million next financial year, ensuring high quality care continues to be delivered to children and young people across Queensland.

13 June 2017 - **\$42.3 million boost for West Moreton hospital and health services** - Ipswich and West Moreton residents will continue to receive high quality health care and hospital treatment with a \$42.3 million funding boost to the West Moreton Hospital and Health Service as part of the 2017-18 State Budget.

13 June 2017 - **\$46.6M budget boost ensures lifesaving care for Queenslanders** - Queenslanders will continue to receive lifesaving care when they need it thanks to a \$46.6 million funding boost for Queensland Ambulance Service in this year's State Budget.

13 June 2017 - **Record health funding in State Budget** - Queensland's health budget will grow by \$1.3 billion to strengthen frontline services, redevelop hospitals, and bolster mental health care.

12 June 2017 - What's the difference between a cold and the flu? - Colds and influenza (flu) are both viral respiratory illnesses but they are caused by different viruses. Both of these illnesses can have similar symptoms and at first it can be difficult to tell the difference. While neither virus is pleasant to catch, the flu can be much more severe than a cold and lead to potentially life-threatening complications, so it's important to know what to do when you are sick and how to limit the virus from spreading to others.

9 June 2017 - Teens urged to take up free meningococcal vaccine - Health and Ambulance Services Minister Cameron Dick has encouraged teenagers aged 15 to 19 across the state to receive free vaccinations against four strains of meningococcal disease, during his visit to Calvary Christian College in Townsville.

Tasmania. Department of Health & Human Services

16 June 2017 - Where have the medi-hotels gone? - Just two weeks after Labor rolled out its so-called alternative Budget that included as its centrepiece a medi-hotel scheme, the policy appears to have been dumped.

15 June 2017 - An additional 3100 Tasmanians to receive elective surgery or endoscopy sooner - The Hodgman Liberal Government has delivered the biggest ever boost to health funding which is opening 106 more beds and employing more hospital staff. While waiting lists are at a record low – we know there is always more to be done.

That's why the Government is investing an additional \$14.3 million for elective surgeries and endoscopies – which equates to more than 3,100 Tasmanians getting their surgery or endoscopy sooner.

14 June 2017 - **Milestone for RHH rebuild** - The Royal Hobart Hospital (RHH) Redevelopment has reached a major milestone with foundation works underway on the new inpatient precinct which will increase bed capacity by 250. The new hospital will mean more beds, more operating and procedure rooms, and state-of-the-art facilities to meet the health needs of Tasmanians.

Victoria. Department of Health

16 June 2017 - More Support To Create An Inclusive Victoria - The Andrews Labor Government will provide \$500,000 for key research projects to support LGBTI Victorians and their families. The funding will

help produce online resources to support LGBTI communities, and to undertake research into the health and wellbeing of LGBTI Victorians.

16 June 2017 - Full Forward For Women's Health In The West - The Andrews Labor Government is partnering with the Western Bulldogs Football Club to kick new goals for women's health in Melbourne's west. Speaking at the Western Bulldogs Community Foundation Fundraising Dinner last night, Minister for Health Jill Hennessy announced a \$600,000 grant to expand the successful Sons of the West health program to include women under the banner of Daughters of the West.

15 June 2017 - More Translating Services For Culturally Diverse Patients - Four health services will deliver innovative interpreting services to make it easier for patients from multicultural backgrounds to get the care they need, thanks to a new Andrews Labor Government program. Minister for Health Jill Hennessy today announced recipients from the inaugural round of the Labor Government's \$623,000 Language Service Innovation Grants program.

14 June 2017 - **Boosting Aboriginal Maternal And Child Health Services** - The Andrews Labor Government is improving access and participation in Maternal and Child Health (MCH) services for Aboriginal families. Minister for Families and Children Jenny Mikakos opened grants for the Aboriginal Maternal and Child Health Initiative today. Victorian data shows Aboriginal children traditionally have lower participation rates in MCH services. The gap increases from 4.8.

13 June 2017 - Massive Boost To Make Victorian Health Services Safer - The Andrews Labor Government will double its investment in making hospitals and mental health services safer, as a powerful new campaign makes it clear that violence against healthcare workers is never OK.

Western Australia. Department of Health

Media Releases

15 June 2017 - Minister for Health and Minister for Regional Development: Funding extension for regional GP incentives - The McGowan Government has locked in a further two years of funding for the medical workforce incentives component of the Southern Inland Health Initiative (SIHI).

15 June 2017 - Minister for Health and Mental Health: State Government delivers funding boost for men's health - Health Minister Roger Cook today announced funding to address the alarming rate of suicide in men in farming communities, and to develop a State-wide Men's Health and Wellbeing Policy.

9 June 2017 - Lupin added to mandatory allergen labelling - Lupin has been added to the list of 9 allergens that must be declared on food labels, following consideration by ministers responsible for food regulation.

Policy Framework

14 June 2017 - MP 0053/17 - WA Clinical Alert (MedAlert) Policy.

Publications

9 June 2017 - Review of the morale and engagement of clinical staff at Princess Margaret Hospital.

9 June 2017 - Healthview.

New Zealand. Ministry of Health

14 June 2017 - HISO 10024.2:2017 Medical Device Terminology and Identification Standards - This document provides direction on the new information standards required for accurate and consistent description and identification of medical devices in New Zealand.

American Medical Association

15 June 2017 - Reducing Excessive Use of Antipsychotics in Nursing Homes - This Viewpoint describes the structure and outcomes of a national initiative of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services to reduce the use of antipsychotics in nursing homes.

Australian Medical Association (AuMA)

14 June 2017 - Maternity Services Framework faces difficult birth - Specialist obstetricians and GPs have been left out of a review of maternity services in Australia - the equivalent of conducting a law and order review without talking to the police, AuMA President Dr Michael Gannon says.

15 June 2017 - AuMA congratulates recipients of Queen's Birthday honours - The AuMA pays tribute to all doctors and health professionals whose outstanding work was recognised in the Queen's Birthday Honours List over the weekend.

15 June 2017 - National Maternity Services Framework facing a difficult birth - The AuMA is warning that the planned new National Framework for Maternity Services (NFMS) is doomed to fail due to inadequate stakeholder consultation and the spectacular failure to adequately engage expert obstetric, general practice, and other crucial medical specialists in its development. Following an agreement at the April 2016 COAG Health Council meeting, the Queensland Government was tasked to lead the project to develop the NFMS, under the auspices of the Australian Health Ministers' Advisory Council (AHMAC).

15 June 2017 - **Better support needed for wound care in general practice** - AuMA Vice President, Dr Tony Bartone, spoke to the Age this week, highlighting the need for general practices to be better funded to provide appropriate wound dressings for their bulk-billed patients.

15 June 2017 - Recall – Valpam 5 (diazepam) 5mg tablets - GPs are advised that Arrow Pharmaceuticals, in consultation with the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA), is recalling all batches of Valpam 5, 5mg tablets supplied in blister packs of 50 tablets, due to medicine tampering. This recall comes two weeks after Roche recalled packs of 5mg Valium tablets after they were found to contain other drugs such as paracetamol codeine tablets and Apotex-Pantoprazole 40mg tablets.

15 June 2017 - Only two in five Australians are taking the bowel cancer screening test - GPs may wish to encourage their patients over 50 to take the free home screening test for bowel cancer, with data from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) showing only two in five Australians eligible for the test are actually taking it.

15 June 2017 - International Harmonisation of Ingredient Names - Some active ingredient names used in Australia differ from those used internationally. The Therapeutic Goods Administration has updated more than 200 active ingredient names used in Australia as part of their International Harmonisation of Ingredient Names reform.

15 June 2017 - AuMA Family Doctor Week Poster - GPs are encouraged to download and print this year's AuMA Family Doctor Week Poster to display in their consulting suites and waiting rooms. The theme for this year's event is Your family doctor: all about you. Family Doctor Week will run from 23-29 July 2017.

ABOUT US

Dr Gerry Bean



Gerry is a Corporate Partner and provides corporate and commercial advice to the health sector and the not for profit sector. He has over 20 years' experience as a partner. He acts for hospitals, primary healthcare networks, aged care and retirement villages, charities and health insurers. Gerry has acted on several mergers in the health and non-for profit sectors including the merger which created cohealth. Gerry is an active contributor to our pro-bono practice. Gerry is also a director of the Law Institute of Victoria and a director of DLA Piper's International Board.

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