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19 December 1989

BROWNS PLAINS MEDICAL CENTRE
CNR VANSITTART AND BEAUDESERT ROADS
BROWNS PLAINS 4118
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Miss R Matchett
Acting Director-General
Department of Family Services
Family Services Building
George Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000

llw
22/12/89

Dear Miss Matchett

I have been approached by Mr Peter Coyne, the Manager of the John Oxley Youth Centre, to write some short comments in regard to the use of medication with patients at the centre.

As a psychiatrist with a special interest in children and adolescents I have been involved with the assessment and treatment of a number of young people at the Centre during the past twelve to fifteen months. This involvement was at the request of the Management of the John Oxley Youth Centre who from time to time have asked me to be involved with children referred to me by the medical practitioners attending at the Centre.

On occasion I have treated patients with medication when psychiatric disorders have been present. As far as my memory serves me there have been only two cases for which I have prescribed medication and this has been for depressive disorders.

I am aware that one resident at the Centre was treated with medication in an attempt to control significantly abnormal aggressive behaviour. While I did not prescribe this medication the details of the case were presented to me and it appeared to be a justifiable use of a medication in this instance.

To my knowledge I am not aware that drugs or medication are used other than extremely rarely for the control of behaviour.

It is likely that from time to time residents at the John Oxley Youth Centre would suffer from psychiatric disorders and it is also likely that from time to time it would be appropriate, just as it is in the population at large, for these disorders to be treated with medication. Indeed it would be depriving such children of adequate medical treatment if this were not so.

To summarise my above comments, to my knowledge, there is no inappropriate use of medication at the John Oxley Youth Centre and on occasions appropriate medication has been prescribed by me for diagnosed psychiatric disorders.

Yours faithfully
Nigel Collings
Nigel Collings
Psychiatrist

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Date: 3.12.2012

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