Submission

No 23

## INQUIRY INTO THE OPERATION OF THE HEALTH CARE COMPLAINTS ACT 1993

Organisation: NSW Institute of Medical Education and Training

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**Telephone**: 9844 6539 **Date Received**: 10/12/2008

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8 December 2008

The Hon Helen Westwood, AM MLC Chair Committee on the Health Care Complaints Commission Parliament House Macquarie Street Sydney 2000

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Submitted by e-mail

Attn: Mr Mel Keenan, Committee Manager

Dear Ms Westwood

RE: Inquiry into the Operation of the Health Care Complaints Act 1993

I refer to your invitation to make a submission to the Inquiry and thank you for the opportunity to provide some comments for consideration.

The NSW Institute of Medical Education and Training (NSW IMET) is an entity within the NSW Health system reporting to the Director General of NSW Health (Health Administration Corporation – HAC) and providing advice to the Minister for Health. NSW IMET works with the health system, hospitals, colleges and doctors to make sure on the job medical training is the best in Australia. Working closely with doctors-in-training, clinician teachers, health services, Colleges and Universities we strive for excellent patient care through the delivery of high quality medical education and training throughout New South Wales.

While NSW IMET does not have any direct involvement with the Health Care Complaints Commission or the operation of the *Health Care Complaints Act 1993*, it has an interest in safe patient care as it relates to the clinical training, supervision and welfare of doctors-in-training (junior medical staff), who combine roles as service providers and trainees within the NSW Health system.

In relation to the third item of interest to the inquiry, "information sharing between the Commission, the Area Health Services and the Professional Registration Boards", NSW IMET believes it would be useful to have access to consolidated information about the types of complaints made against junior medical staff. This information would provide a valuable quality improvement and teaching resource that could be incorporated into various postgraduate education programs. The Australian Curriculum Framework for Junior Doctors, which covers the first two years of postgraduate training for junior doctors, includes a number of topics on professional standards and communication which would be relevant to the work of the Commission.

If you require any further information, please contact Dr Marie-Louise Stokes, on 9844 6539.

Yours sincerely

Evan Rawstron General Manager