

Ms Tanya Bosch  
Director, Budget Estimates  
Room 812  
Parliament of New South Wales  
Macquarie Street  
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Ms Bosch

I refer to your letter of 21 December 2004 regarding questions taken on notice during the Budget Estimates Hearing on 20 December 2004.

The Hon Dr Arthur Chesterfield-Evans MLC asked a question, which was taken on notice, concerning examination of graduates in psychiatry, which appeared on page 8 of the Hansard transcript provided. In response to Dr Chesterfield-Evans' question, I can advise that:

The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists has advised that Clinical Examinations were reviewed and changed in 2004. This resulted in a more complex series of clinical exams requiring an increase in examiners. In addition, the changes to College by-laws have increased the number of trainees now eligible to sit the Clinical Examinations.

As a result the College increased the number of clinical exam places for the 2004 Sydney Clinical Examinations. In 2005 the College will again maintain a higher than normal number of places in an ongoing program to reduce the backlog of eligible candidates and thereby avoid the need to resort to a priority candidate listing as all candidates will be able to sit the Clinical Examinations when they are eligible. The lower number enrolling (119) in the Written Examination for 2005 (down from 204 in July 2004) indicates that the backlog may clear in the near future.

Yours sincerely

Robyn Kruk  
**Director General**