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Adj Prof Jackie Hanson  
Acting Chief Executive  
Metro North Health  
via email: [REDACTED]

Dr Elizabeth Rushbrook  
Chief Medical Officer  
Metro North Health  
via email: [REDACTED]

Dear Adj Prof Hanson and Dr Rushbrook

Then-AMA Queensland President Prof Chris Perry and I met with you on 19 May 2022 about the pausing of licensed private practice arrangements for obstetricians at the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital (the 'RBWH').

At that time, you advised Metro North would be conducting a review of the arrangements. I would be grateful if you can inform me if the review is now complete and any associated outcomes.

AMA Queensland remains extremely concerned about the safety of preterm private patients who must be admitted to one of the only two hospitals in Brisbane with neonatal intensive care units (RBWH and the Mater). It is not in the patient's best interests to be referred to a public doctor in these circumstances and increases the burden on the public hospital system.

It also creates a monopoly in preterm private obstetrics since all preterm private patients that do not want to be referred to a public doctor must be admitted to the Mater. This serves to endanger the future of private obstetrics by eroding the options available to patients who are prepared to pay for private insurance. Any decrease in the rates of patients with private health insurance directly and immediately increases the burden on our already-stretched public hospital system.

I would welcome an opportunity to meet with you to discuss these issues, your review and any outcomes.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

Dr Brett Dale  
**Chief Executive Officer**  
**AMA Queensland**