

Central Coast Local Health District



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19 July 2023

Dr Lisa Sullivan
Chief Censor
Faculty Radiation Oncology
The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists
Level 9, 51 Drutt Street,
Sydney NSW 2000
accreditation@ranzcr.edu.au

Re: Withdrawal of Accreditation for Radiation Oncology Training at Central Coast Cancer Centre (Gosford Hospital).

Dear Dr Lisa Sullivan,

I refer to your letter dated 11 July 2023 in which you advise that the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists Radiation Oncology Education and Training Committee (ROETC) will withdraw the accreditation of Central Coast Cancer Centre effective 25 August 2023 (the Decision).

Central Coast Local Health District (CCLHD) is committed to working with the RANZCR to resolve the issues identified. I am concerned about the matters identified by the RANZCR as leading to the Decision and assure you the rectification of those matters is being taken very seriously.

While I stress that CCLHD is committed to resolving the issues that have been identified, in fairness I should indicate that CCLHD considers that the Decision is not well particularised in terms of the Accreditation Standards and Criteria that RANZCR asserts CCLHD continues not to meet. We are also concerned that procedural fairness has not been provided in the decision-making process.

I wish to put the RANZCR on notice that CCLHD intends to seek a reconsideration of the Decision in accordance with the RANZCR *Reconsideration, Review and Appeal of Decisions Policy*. Further, CCLHD reserves its position in respect of other possible remedies or avenues it may have in respect of the Decision.

In the meantime, as a show of good faith, I enclose an unredacted copy of the Workplace Culture Review undertaken by People Strengths. Contrary to what we have realised the RANZCR considered was the case, the redactions were not made to withhold material content in the report from RANZCR. Rather, CCLHD was concerned with protecting the confidentiality of the staff members who were interviewed for the review. We remain concerned about the privacy of our staff and to that end I ask that you do not forward this report, copy in full and that it is destroyed once the ROETC has considered it. CCLHD strongly believes that the report demonstrates that the cultural issues in the Radiation Oncology Department do not affect the trainees, their education or

supervision. I would be pleased to arrange a briefing with the People Strengths consultant who authored the report if it would assist the ROETC.

I would like to reiterate that CCLHD is committed to working with the RANZCR to resolve the issues and is open to meeting with RANZCR to discuss actions to remediate the issues identified by the RANZCR or any alternative solutions the RANZCR may identify to withdrawing accreditation, noting that the withdrawal of accreditation will have serious ramifications on patient care delivery in our region. Should you wish to arrange this, or to meet with the People Strengths Consultant, please contact me on 4320 2111.

Yours sincerely



Scott McLachlan
Chief Executive