



Aboriginal and Torres Strait  
Islander Health Practice  
Chinese Medicine  
Chiropractic  
Dental  
Medical  
Medical Radiation Practice  
Nursing and Midwifery  
Occupational Therapy  
Optometry  
Osteopathy  
Pharmacy  
Physiotherapy  
Podiatry  
Psychology

Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency

30 October 2014

Ms Melissa Purdy  
Coroners Registrar  
Coroners Court of Victoria  
65 Kavanagh Street  
SOUTHBANK VIC 3006

By e-mail: [cpuresponses@coronerscourt.vic.gov.au](mailto:cpuresponses@coronerscourt.vic.gov.au)



Dear Ms Purdy

**Investigation into the death of Lily Irwin – Court reference: COR 2012 004248**

Thank you for your letter of 16 September 2014 concerning the investigation into the death of Lily Irwin and recommendations made by the Coroner in relation to s.72(2).

I am writing further to recommendations 1 and 2 from the Coroner arising from the investigation. Those recommendations were as follows:

1. That the Victorian Department of Health Chief Nurse and Midwifery Officer, the Midwifery Board of Australia and AHPRA each consider using the death of baby Lily (de-identified) as a case example to highlight the important of health professionals maintaining professional boundaries.
2. That the Victorian Department of Health Chief Nurse and Midwifery Officer, the Midwifery Board and AHPRA each consider ways to raise awareness amongst midwives of the possibility of serious subclinical infections in the case of PROM.

I can advise that the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) has brought the report of the Coroner's investigation to the attention of the Medical Board of Australia and the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia. In response to the recommendations, both boards have decided to incorporate an appropriate summary in their newsletter to the professions and, where appropriate, refer practitioners to additional guidance from the board.

Should you have any further questions in relation to this matter, please contact Diana Newcombe, National Director, Legal Services on (08) 7071 5518 or by email at [diana.newcombe@ahpra.gov.au](mailto:diana.newcombe@ahpra.gov.au).

Yours sincerely

**Martin Fletcher**  
Chief Executive Officer