



29 September 2011

Email: [cpuresponses@coronerscourt.vic.gov.au](mailto:cpuresponses@coronerscourt.vic.gov.au)

Ms Maria Bustos  
Coroners Registrar  
Coroners Court of Victoria  
Level 1, 436 Lonsdale Street  
MELBOURNE 3000

Dear Ms Bustos,

**Re: Finding into Death with Inquest: APPLEBY, Court Reference – 341/2007**

We refer to the Inquest Finding in the above matter made by Coroner R Staines on 16 June 2011, pursuant to the *Coroners Act 2008* (Vic.) and your letter dated 22 June 2011, received by us on 29 June 2011. Please find here our response to this letter sent within the timeframe specified of no later than three (3) months of the date of receipt.

The Finding, which contained a recommendation that the Finding and a copy of Portland District Health's Maternity Services - Safety Framework, which constituted Exhibit J at the inquest into the death of baby Owen Appleby, be forwarded directly to the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) for consideration and wider distribution, was received on 28 June 2011.

We advise that the Finding and Exhibit J will be provided to the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia and to the Medical Board of Australia for consideration and discussion in the near future. For the purpose of alerting practitioners (registered under the *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Act 2009* (the **National Law**)) in the future to such Findings, AHPRA's intention is to:

- publish a case summary naming only the deceased person with the Coroner's recommendations in full on AHPRA's website; and
- publish the case summary, full recommendations and link or case reference on its own Home site, most likely on the "Notifications and Outcomes" page <http://www.ahpra.gov.au/Notifications-and-Outcomes.aspx>. It is intended each relevant National Board home page will also note new cases and recommendations that have been posted.

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Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency

G.P.O. Box 9958 | Melbourne VIC 3001 | [www.ahpra.gov.au](http://www.ahpra.gov.au)

Further, AHPRA will investigate the possibility of linking the relevant Case Findings page of the Coroners Court of Victoria, in this instance found here:

<http://www.coronerscourt.vic.gov.au/wps/wcm/connect/justlib/Coroners+Court/Home/Case+Findings/CORONERS2+-+034107+Owen+Appleby>

to the AHPRA website.

Should you have any queries concerning the above please contact Ms Pamela Malcolm, Acting General Counsel, on (03) 8708 9142.

Yours sincerely,



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**Martin Fletcher**

Chief Executive Officer