

Inquest into the death of Barry Hempel and Ian Lovell

Mr Hempel and Mr Lovell died when the aircraft within which they were sole occupants, crashed into the Pacific Ocean in the vicinity of Stradbroke Island. The flight was an adventure flight in which Mr Hempel was the pilot and Mr Lovell the passenger. They died on 31 October 2008 as a result of multiple injuries they received in the aircraft crash.

At the time of his death, Mr Hempel held a private pilot's licence (aeroplane). His commercial pilots licence (aeroplane), his transport pilots licence (aeroplane) and his commercial pilots licence (helicopter) had all been cancelled by the Civil Aviation Safety Authority. The Coroner heard evidence relating to seizures Mr Hempel was reported to have experienced since a head injury in 2001.

Coroner John Hutton delivered his findings of inquest on 4 October 2013.

The Queensland Government responds to recommendations directed to government agencies at inquests by informing the community if a recommendation will be implemented or the reason why a recommendation is not supported. Further information relating the implementation of recommendations can be obtained from the responsible agency named in the response.

Recommendation 5

The Queensland Government give consideration to participating in the Commonwealth centralised medical treatment system (eHealth). That systems records medical data including personal health records, Medicare data, Australian organ donor registration data and Australia childhood immunisation registry data which can only be accessed by medical practitioners. Further consideration should be given to a requirement that Queensland Ambulance Service reports also be included.

Response and action: the recommendation is implemented.

Responsible agency: Queensland Health.

The Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services responded:

Queensland Health is participating in the Commonwealth's personally controlled electronic health record system.

The personally controlled electronic health record system is designed to provide a mechanism for key information about a patient to be electronically available to healthcare providers (across the public and private sectors). Patients can elect to have a personally controlled electronic health record including selection of which organisations have access.

From late November 2013, hospital and health services could upload Queensland Health discharge summaries to the patient controlled electronic health record. They could also view a patient's record. Over time, and dependent on availability of funding, Queensland Health may upload other documents such as dispensed medications, pathology, or Queensland Ambulance Service reports.

The Commonwealth will review the personally controlled electronic health record. Queensland will continue to engage with the Commonwealth and implement personally controlled electronic health record functionality where practicable.