

Parliamentary Question
Hon Minister for Health and Medical Services
Tuesday 13/03/2018
Written Response

77/2018 **Hon. Anare Vadei to ask the Minister for Health and Medical Services – Can the Minister inform the House how many cases were attended to by the CWM Hospital for remedial purposes for patients who had their surgery at the Suva Private Hospital since the change of ownership of the Suva Private Hospital now known as MIOT and what could have been the possible cause for this.**

MADAM SPEAKER,

I thank the Honourable Member for the question.

Though we do not have the specific data on how many patients have exactly been treated through remedial purposes, however we do know that those that were referred to CWMH were provided all due care at the hospital's Intensive Care Unit (ICU).

MADAM SPEAKER,

The Ministry will not be able to reveal any patient or clinical details of the cases as we are not at liberty to discuss the cases individually because of the "confidentiality clause" to protect the privacy of our patients.

MADAM SPEAKER,

Prior to transformation of the MIOT hospital, the Suva Private Hospital did perform surgeries and referred surgical cases to CWMH in cases where:

- ICU care was required for the patient preoperatively or postoperatively as Suva Private Hospital did not have a fully-fledged ICU then;
- The services of a sub specialist was required e.g. urologist, neurosurgeon, plastic surgeon, which Suva Private Hospital did not have at the given point in time; and
- The patient could not afford the costs of being a private patient and wished to be managed as a public patient.

There was no formal arrangement in place for the transferring of care between the two facilities, as CWMH rarely refers patients to specialists in Suva Private Hospital. In cases where referral was made, the two hospitals provided support that served in the best interest of the patients.

The CWMH does conduct its Surgical Audit as part of good governance and quality control of the services provided. In the extreme cases of practice that is deemed unsafe, we refer the matter to the Fiji Medical Council for thorough investigation. An honest audit and mitigation measures to improve the system is the way forward.

THANK YOU MADAM SPEAKER.