

Entry Permit Holder Report

SafeWork SA

Application ID 20958399

Entry Permit Holder	
Full Name:	Bernadette Mulholland
Permit Number:	ET-22-03868
Union Represented:	South Australian Salaried Medical Officer Association
Worksite Entered	
Business Name:	Royal Adelaide Hospital Emergency Department
Industry:	Other Health
Address:	1 PortRoad Adelaide
Date workplace entered:	25/01/2025

I Bernadette Mulholland am of the opinion that the PCBU has contravened the WHS legislation relating to:

	Alleged Contravention	More information	Was the contravention rectified?
PCBU Alleged Contravention 1	Not maintaining a safe work environment	<p>On 25/01/25 I was contacted by a Dr in the RAH ED and advised that there was significant access block for patients in the ED. At the time there were 38 admitted pts in the ED</p> <p>I was told there were only 6 scheduled discharges and that it would be "horrific for the rest of the weekend"</p> <p>I was advised that the trainee drs who would be covering the nights for the rest of the weekend will be taking on</p>	No

		<p>the whole burden and risk of the hospital.</p> <p>I was advised that the trainee drs dread coming to work in the ED, the hospital did not value the work of the trainee medical officers and other trainees were leaving to go elsewhere.</p> <p>The Dr advised that there would be a shortfall of trainee medical officers in ED for February and were being asked to come in to do extra night shifts which did not meet their training requirements and expectations and paying as a recall.</p> <p>The Drs have been asked not to advise the training requirements are not being met and that the drs need to sort this themselves.</p>	
PCBU Alleged Contravention 2	Not maintaining a safe work environment	<p>I have asked for the rosters pursuant to S118 to check whether the trainee doctors are expected to fill the roster on limited resources. The doctors advised this is all unofficial and is placing strain on the doctors giving rise to wellbeing and safety issues and whether additional night shifts are being asked to be performed contrary to training requirements</p> <p>The doctors advised there is also a shortage of consultants.</p> <p>The doctors were concerned that the should the trainee medical officers decide to leave because of the rosters the training they had already done would not count so were a bit stuck</p>	No
PCBU Alleged Contravention 3	Inadequate monitoring of the health of workers and the conditions at the workplace	See above	No
PCBU Alleged Contravention 4	Not maintaining a safe work environment	The doctors advised that there had been a elederly patient in their 70s who had waited in the Ed for 31 hours and another elederly patient in their 80s who had waited 26 hours in the ED	No

		<p>Staffing levels in the ED were "atrocious"</p> <p>There were 28 admitted patients waiting for a bed at time of leaving with a mental health patient having waited 49 hours in the ED.</p> <p>There had been 37 discharges that day which is a high number but there were just more patients continuing to come in.</p>	
PCBU Alleged Contravention 5	Not maintaining a safe work environment	<p>I was advised that the ICU was full and these patients needed the ward beds which was sensible but continued the access block.</p> <p>I contacted the Executive on call who advised there were planned discharges and 13 beds were to be available .</p> <p>I checked in with the doctors the next day and was advised there had only been 15 patients discharged, that the acuity of patients high. The access block has continued over the weekend and during the week.</p>	No