

Entry Permit Holder Report

SafeWork SA

Application ID 20140085

Entry Permit Holder	
Full Name:	Elizabeth Anne Dooley; Bernadette Mulholland
Permit Number:	ET-24-01021; ET-22-03868
Union Represented:	South Australian Salaried Medical Officers Association
Worksite Entered	
Business Name:	Royal Adelaide Hospital, Adult Genetics Unit
Industry:	Other Health
Address:	Port Road, Adelaide SA 5000
Date workplace entered:	14 June 2024

I Elizabeth Anne Dooley; 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	Inadequate facilities or access to facilities	Workers advised that Adult Genetics Unit (AGU) sees up to 50,000 families per year. There are approximately 9 desks available in the AGU for all staff including medical staff to provide this entire service. Some staff are required to 'hot desk'; three doctors including the Head of Unit share a small office contrary to medical custom and practice. The pressure of working in this environment is causing psychosocial harm to workers. The AGU is not co-located with clinic space, so medical staff must travel to other	No

		<p>hospitals from the RAH to conduct clinics. This poses physical risks for workers. Risk to patients includes the increased wait times as medical staff spend time travelling instead of seeing patients. The PCBU is aware of these issues however they have not assisted in resolving them. The PCBU is aware that a site on Currie Street was allocated for AGU but has not yet been fitted out, and advise there is now no intention of relocating to Currie Street.</p>	
PCBU Alleged Contravention 2	Not maintaining a safe work environment	<p>The office space provided for workers is inadequate for workers to perform their jobs safely. AGU workers are in an open plan office shared with at least four other health units or seated in a small office so physically close to each other that appropriate social distancing is impossible. Workers are unable to have private and confidential conversations with patients and colleagues. Workers are unable to book breakout rooms to have these private conversations. Workers are anxious and concerned that patient and professional confidentiality is compromised. Workers advised that offices are unable to be heated effectively causing some staff to use blankets at their desks. There is also uncontrolled noise from heavy doors slamming, patient discussions, and staff conversations. Some staff have resorted to wearing noise-cancelling headphones. This is causing workers distress, anxiety and psychosocial harm.</p>	No