



**Australian  
Human Rights  
Commission**

*everyone, everywhere, everyday*

Our Ref: 209224 FD: BJ

6 October 2010

I refer to your correspondence received on 30 September 2010 as well as our conversation on 6 October 2010.

You state that Dr [redacted] circumcised your son. You raised concerns that Dr [redacted] failed to seek your consent before your son was circumcised. You also alleged that your son's human rights were violated when he was circumcised.

The Australian Human Rights Commission has a specific jurisdiction when it comes to the issues it can deal with. Its role is to consider complaints of alleged discrimination on the basis of a person's race, sex, age or disability within specific areas of public life. The Commission can also investigate complaints of human rights breaches relating to one of the international covenants scheduled to the *Australian Human Rights Commission Act 1986*, which can only be made against the Australian Government.

The Commission cannot consider human rights breach claims against private bodies such as Dr [redacted] or [redacted] Medical Services.

I note that you have already raised your concerns with the NSW Health Care Complaints Commission. It appears that this would be a more appropriate body to pursue your concerns.

Should you have any further queries, please call our Complaint Information Line on 1300 656 419.

Yours sincerely,

Benjamin Jackson  
Complaints Information Officer