David A.S. Crofts

23 Brisbane Street BERWICK Victoria 3806

Monday, 22nd September 2003

Dr. H. Das

Pinelodge Clinic Private Hospital 1480 Heatherton Road DANDENONG Victoria 3175

Dear Dr. Das,

Until recently I was under the care of another psychiatrist and as I became dissatisfied with the quality of service that he was providing, I have decided to try and engage the services of a better psychiatrist.

I consider my last psychiatrist to be of poor quality, and now, all that I am asking of you is that you agree to diagnose and treat me without being influenced by what I believe to be his poor quality psychiatric opinion.

I hope that you can do this for me as you feel confident in your capacity to diagnose and treat using the symptoms demonstrated at the time.

I do not dispute that I am a schizophrenic.

I currently arrange for my own treatment and wish to continue doing so. My preferred medication is the depot injection Fluanxol. My current dose is 30 mg per fortnight which I receive from my GP. In the past I have received 20 mg per fortnight for several years without relapse.

Over the last two years I have been receiving my medication from a medical professional qualified only to ascertain if emergency treatment is necessary. I have only been reviewed by my psychiatrist once in all that time. I am prepared to accept that level of service but if I am to be reviewed so infrequently I expect the advice to be of good quality.

I do not believe it is strictly necessary for you to see me for you to agree to become my psychiatrist. In fact, I believe it would be a waste of government money as my GP has judged that immediate treatment beyond his training is not indicated. I do not anticipate the need for a review but my GP has requested my preferred contact should he decide that a review is necessary. I believe that my GP is sufficiently qualified to do that and it is in keeping with the level of service that I have been receiving over the past two years.

All I ask of you is that should my GP send me to you for review, you do the psychiatric work necessary to correctly diagnose and treat me, without being poisoned by the poor quality psychiatric opinion of my previous psychiatrist. If you are prepared to do that, please send me a letter to that effect and I will pass your details on to my GP.

Yours sincerely,

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David Crofts.