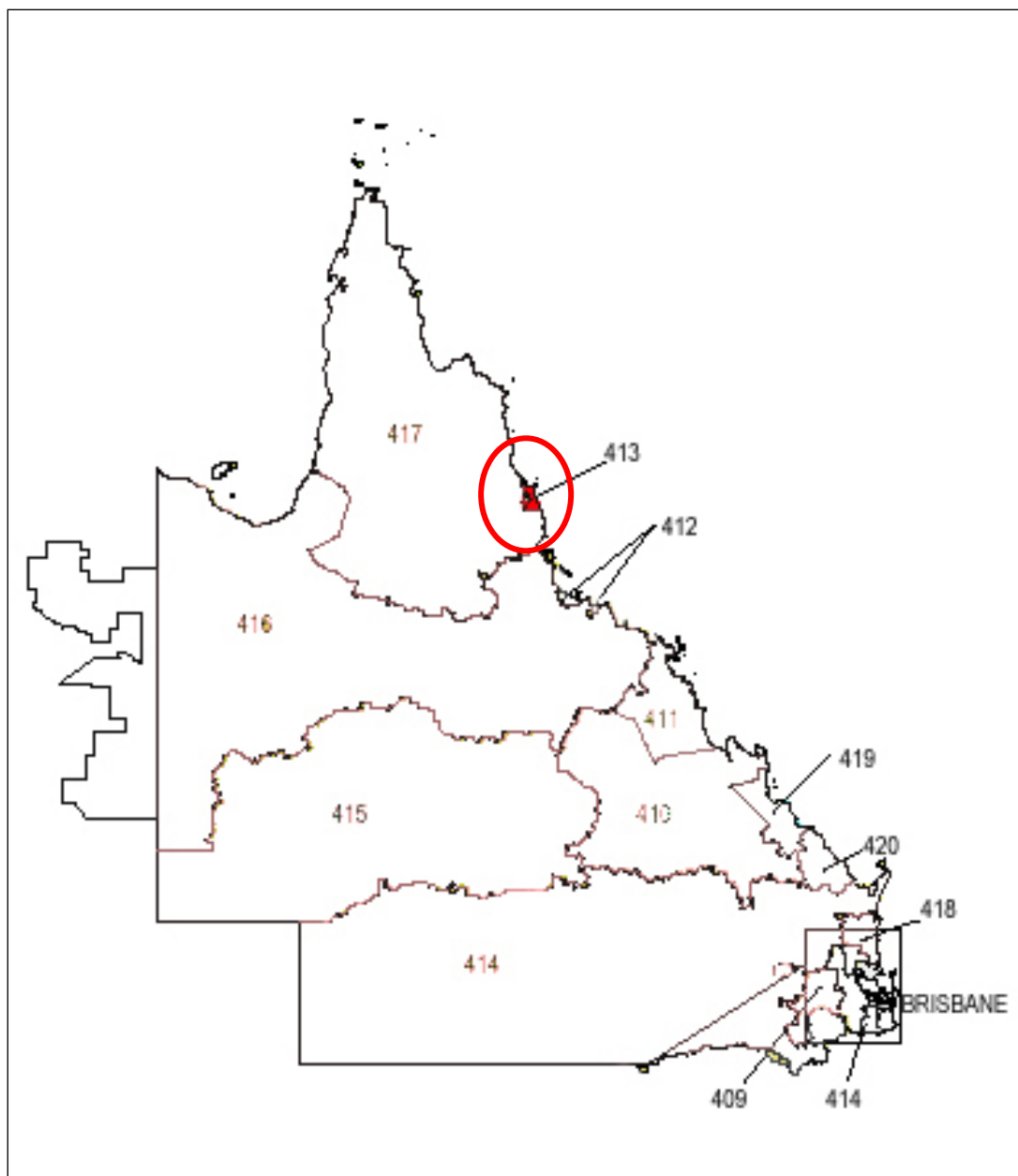


# Cairns

Division of General Practice



## Quick Contacts

Ph: 07 4052 1699

Fx: 07 4052 1301

# Cairns

## Division of General Practice

251 Lake Street  
CAIRNS QLD 4870  
Ph: 07 4052 1699  
Fx: 07 4052 1301  
Division ID: 413

**Population of the Division:** 119,668 (2001 Census)

**Number of GP members:** 119

**Number of practices:** 46 (group 39; solo 7)

**Estimated number of practicing GPs:** 160

**Number of female GPs:** 13

**Number of overseas trained GPs:** 10

**Number of FTE GPs:** 92.47 (source DoHA 01-02 fin year)

**Ratio of population to GPs:** 1:1294

**Number of public hospitals:** 1

**Number of private hospitals:** 1

**Is the Division involved in the provision of AHPMC?**

After Hours Services limited within Cairns region due to closure of Cairns Doctors After Hours Service. Currently awaiting outcome of recently submitted Service Development Grant, which will develop solutions around the provision of after hours services in Cairns

**Did the Division receive any funding from AHPMC grant rounds?**

Division received a seeding grant in November 2002 to undertake a business planning exercise to develop a model to be submitted for funding as a service development grant.

**Was supporting after hours service or service development part of your 2002-2003-business plan?**

Not specifically, although the Division has undertaken significant work to progress this issue.

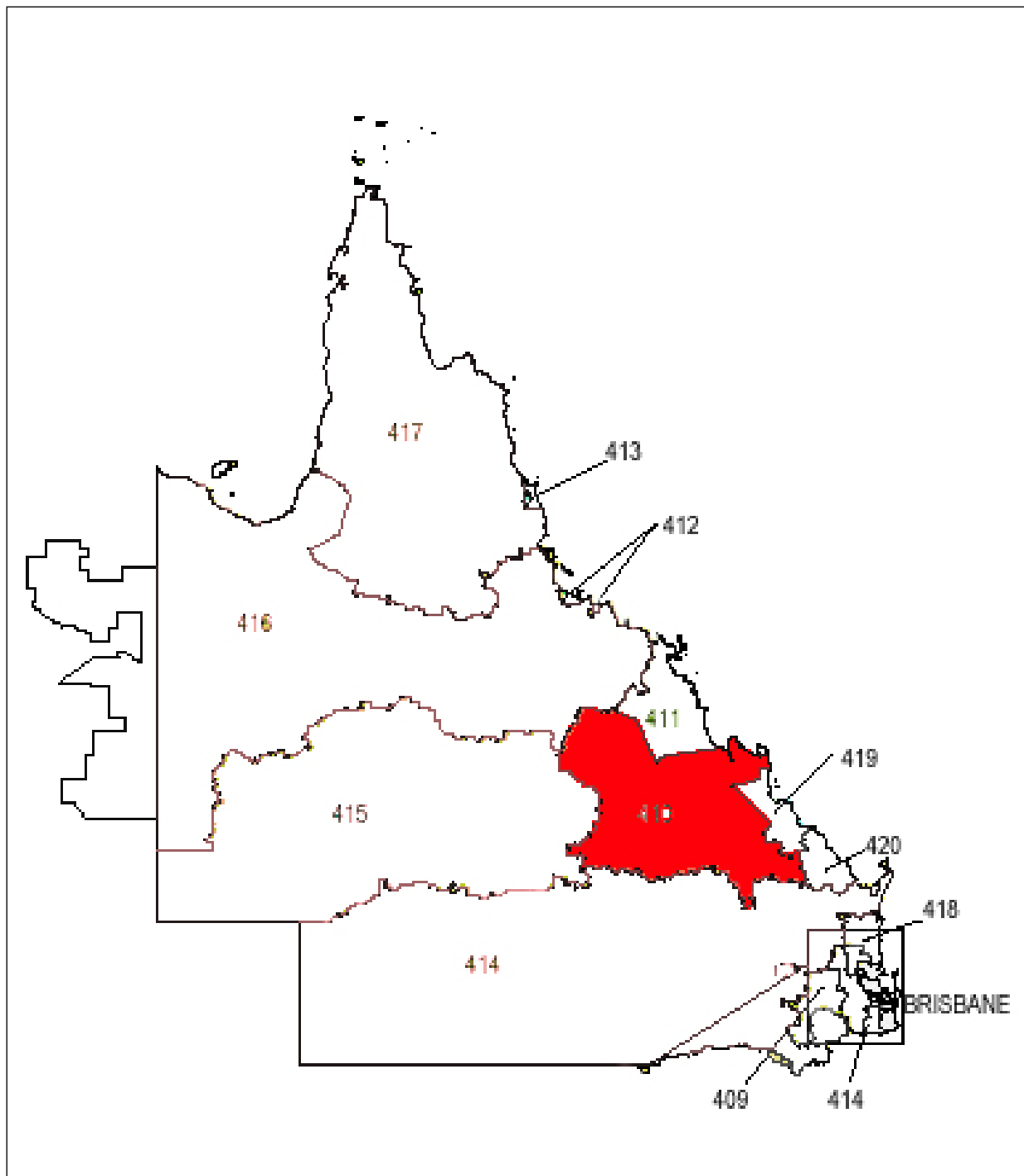
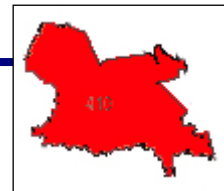
**Is supporting after hours service delivery or development part of your 2003-2004-business plan?**

Not specifically, although if the Division is successful in its recent funding application for a service development grant it would form a major piece of work for the Division.

<b>Services</b>	<b>Details of services</b>	<b>Information and background</b>
<b>Cairns Base Hospital</b> The Esplanade, CAIRNS Q 4870 Ph: (07) 4050 6333	Cairns Base Hospital has a 24 hour Emergency Department.	High volume of Category 4's and 5's seen in the Emergency Department.
2 bulk billing clinics within Cairns. Only open for extended hours – not open 24 hours		
Majority GPs/practices cover their own after hours due to closure of Cairns Doctors After Hours Services	GPs cover their own after hours or refer to clinic/hospital	

# Central Queensland Rural

Division of General Practice



## Quick Contacts

Ph: 07 4992 5544  
Fx: 07 4992 5546

# Central Queensland Rural

## Division of General Practice

1/33 Callide Street  
BILOELA QLD 4715  
Ph: 074992 5544  
Fx: 07 4992 5546  
Division ID: 410

**Population of Division:** 68,994

**Number of GP members:** 56

**Estimated number of practicing GPs:** 53

**Number of practices:** 23 (group 6; solo 17)

**Number of female GPs:** 12

**Number of overseas trained doctors:** 12

**Number of FTE GPs:** 51.5

**Ratio of population to GPs:** 1:2212

**Number of public hospitals:** 12

**Number of private hospitals:** Nil

**Is the Division involved in the provision of AHPMC?** No

**Did the Division receive any funding from AHPMC grant rounds?** No

**Was supporting after hours service or service development part of your 2002-2003 business plan?** No

**Is supporting after hours service delivery or development part of your 2003-2004 business plan?** Yes – Investigation options for use in this Division is ongoing.

### Useful demographic information

No private hospital in region, mostly one GP towns, covering hospital.

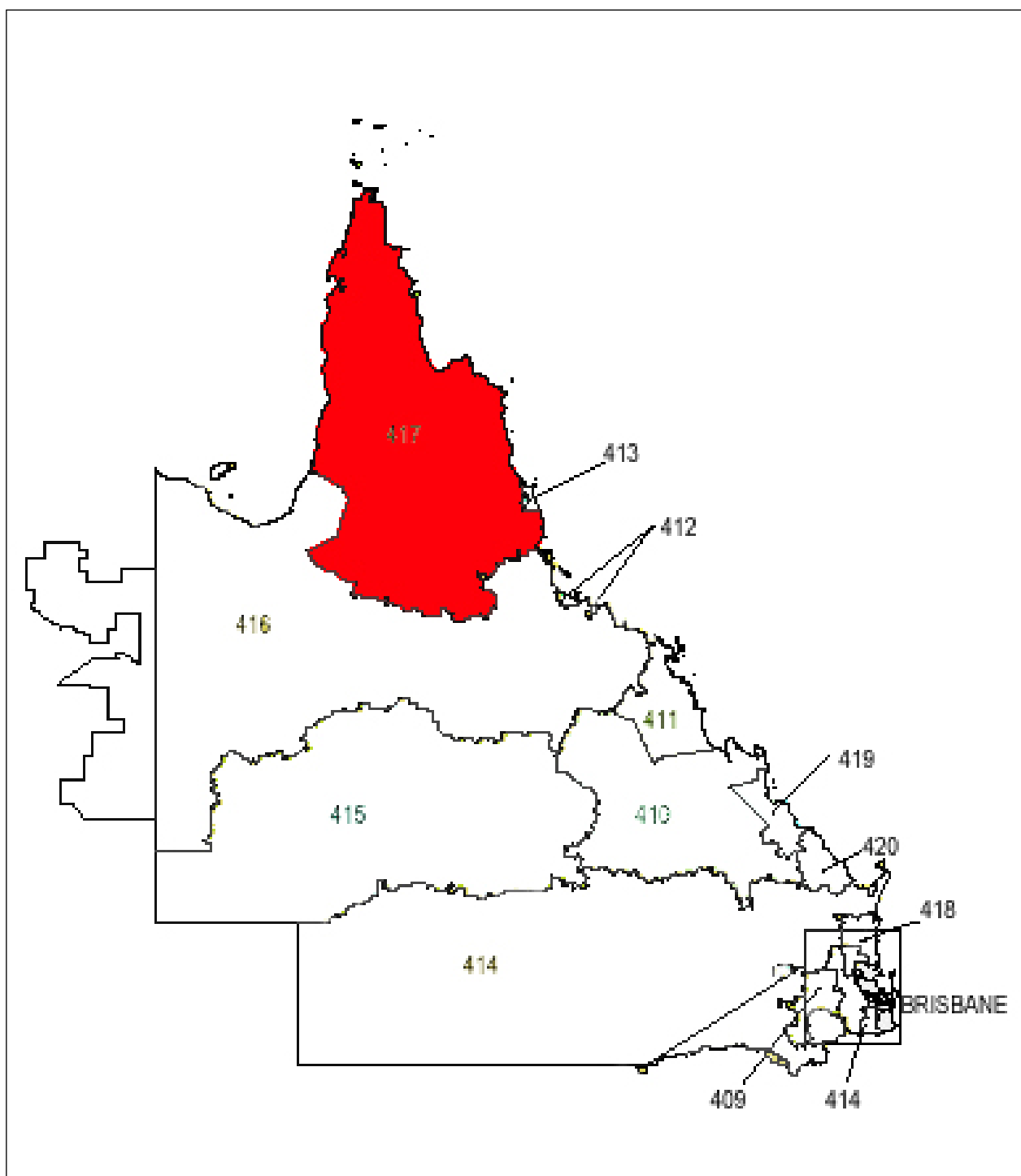
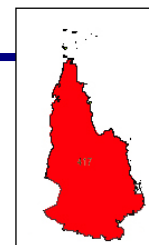
#### Issues:

- no support for young locums sent out to rural towns
- high turnover of GPs working within Qld Health
- Increasing lack of procedural skills and support for GPs working procedurally
- no relief for GPs overnight

<b>Services</b>	<b>Details of services</b>	<b>Information and background</b>
Biloela and Emerald GPs: private GPs do own oncall during the week and have roster system in each town on the weekends.	No formal arrangements	This roster has been worked out over many years and does not always meet everyones needs.
Most solo GPs cover their own call or have developed a local arrangement, eg RN takes calls or local ambulance service triages.	This is often daunting to locums or new recruits who are not familiar with local personnel and tend to carry the entire responsibility for call.	Most rural GPs develop a relationship with the community who protect their privacy and time off and in most cases do not abuse the after hours services.

# Far North Queensland Rural

Division of General Practice



## Quick Contacts

Ph: 07 4096 5046

Fx: 07 4096 6423

# Far North Queensland Rural

## Division of General Practice

Level 1

31 English Street

MALANDA QLD 4885

Ph: 07 4096 5046

Fx: 07 4096 6423

Division ID: 417

**Population of the Division:** 102,867 (2001 Census)

**Number of GP members:** 110

**Number of practices:** 31 practices (group 25; solo 6)

**Estimated number of practicing GPs:** 113

**Number of female GPs:** 40

**Number of overseas trained doctors:** not known

**Number of FTE GPs:** 61.64

**Ratio of population to GPs:** 1:1689

**Number of public hospitals:** 6

**Number of private hospitals:** 0

**Is the Division involved in the provision of AHPMC?** No

**Did the Division receive any funding from AHPMC grant rounds?** No

**Was supporting after hours service or service development part of your 2002-2003 business plan?** No

**Is supporting after hours service delivery or development part of your 2003-2004 business plan?** No – the private GPs in the FNQ Rural Division have a cooperative roster system which currently works well.

### Useful demographic information

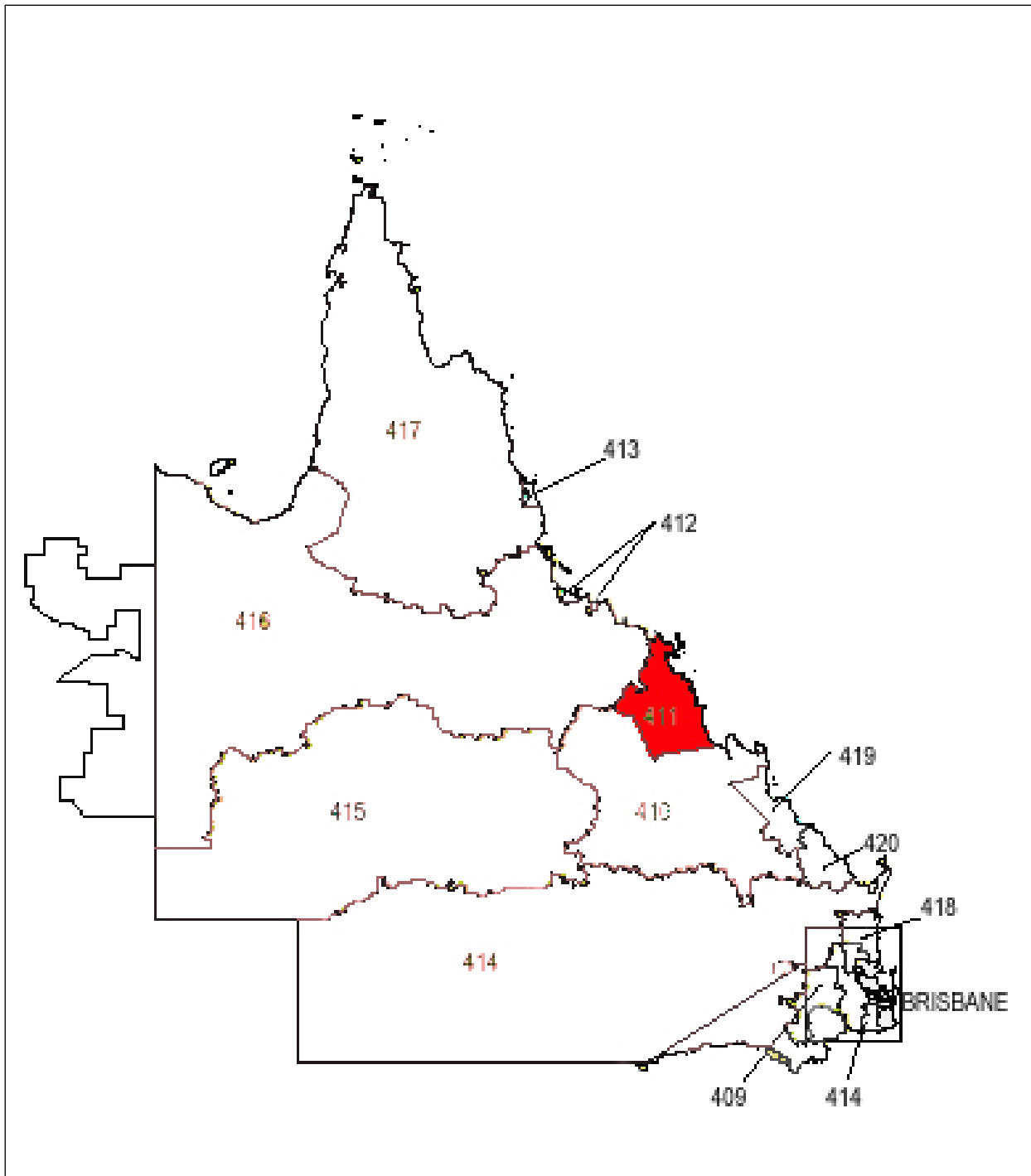
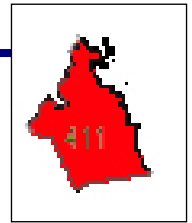
#### Issues:

- High turnover of GPs;
- Relieving doctors inexperienced and lack support;
- Two doctors in a town does not necessarily mean support for each other;
- Public/private issues – no collaboration;
- No relief overnight;
- GP perception that there is a lack of remuneration for the work they do Ahs;
- GP perception of a lack of community knowledge/understanding of appropriate use of services Ahs.

Services	Details of services	Information and background
Atherton: cooperative roster system between all private GPs (24 hours oncall). Atherton hospital has a GP oncall		
Cooktown: GPs on call after hours until 10pm, then back on call at 8am.	Any emergencies directed to Cooktown Hospital. Hospital contacts GP if needed.	
Mareeba: roster system where a private GP is on call every night in addition to the hospital GP oncall.	Mareeba Hospital has hospital doctor oncall from 5pm to 8am each night.	
Innisfail: Roster system with a private GP on call every night in addition to the hospital GP oncall.		
Tully: Roster system with a private GP on call every night in addition to the hospital GP oncall.		

# Mackay

Division of General Practice



## Quick Contacts

Ph: 07 4953 4491

Fx: 07 4953 4681

# Mackay

## Division of General Practice

45 Evans Ave

NORTH MACKAY QLD 4740

Ph: 07 4953 4491

Fx: 07 4953 4681

Division ID: 411

**Population of the Division:** 112,538 (2001 Census)

**Number of GP members:** 106

**Number of practices:** 35 (group 26; solo 9)

**Estimated number of practicing GPs:** 106

**Number of female GPs:** 37

**Number of overseas trained doctors:** 30

**Number of FTE GPs:** 70 (source DoHA 01-02 fin year)

**Ratio of population to GPs:** 1:1607

**Number of public hospitals:** 4

**Number of private hospitals:** 2

**Is the Division involved in the provision of AHPMC?** Yes

**Did the Division receive any funding from AHPMC grant rounds?** Service Development 2002, IMIT Grant 2002 and Seeding Grant 2001.

**Was supporting after hours service or service development part of your 2002-2003 business plan?** Yes

**Is supporting after hours service delivery or development part of your 2003-2004 business plan?** Yes

### Useful demographic information

Rural issues: high turnover, recruitment/ retention issues.

<b>Services</b>	<b>Details of services</b>	<b>Information and background</b>
GP cooperative based at the Mater Hospital, run by the Division, with extensive GP support. 100% of GP practices participate.	The service is an overnight and weekend service with a GP based at the hospital and a second GP on-call.	GPs receive a retainer and a % of patient billings. The Mater covers the rest of the facility, staff and incidentals, including the retainer. The GP on duty covers both inpatients and presenting patients.
One bulk billing extended after hours clinic.		
Rural GPs provide their own on-call arrangements after hours.		
Rural Healthline	Nurse telephone triage service for Rural areas	Based within the After Hours cooperative user pays 1900 number. Operates 5.30pm-8am Mon-Fri. 24 hours on weekends and public holidays. Funded by Commonwealth Service Development Grant.



# South Queensland Rural

## Division of General Practice



<p><b>Southern Queensland Rural GP Division Localities</b></p> <p><u>Legend</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— GP Division Boundary</li> <li>— Local Government Area Boundary</li> <li>● Town/Locality</li> </ul>		 <p>Produced by the Information Management &amp; Planning Section Queensland State Office Commonwealth Department for Health &amp; Ageing September 2002</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: yellow; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Southern Queensland Rural GP Division</li> </ul>		

## Quick Contacts

Ph: 07 4633 0510  
 Fx: 07 4633 0689

# South Queensland Rural

## Division of General Practice

Central Wing St Andrew's Hospital

280 North Street

TOOWOOMBA QLD 4350

Ph: 07 4633 0510

Fx: 07 4633 0689

Division ID: 414

**Population of Division:** 168 389

**Number of GP members:** 129

**Number of practices:** 67(group 32 solo 35)

**Estimated number of practicing GPs:** 131

**Number of female GPs:** 43

**Number of overseas trained doctors:** 20

**Number of FTE GPs:** -

**Ratio of population to GPs:** 1:1285

**Number of public hospitals:** 33

**Number of private hospitals:** 2

**Is the Division involved in the provision of AHPMC? No**

**Did the Division receive any funding from AHPMC grant rounds? Yes – one seeding grant and one IMIT grant**

**Was supporting after hours service or service development part of your 2002-2003 business plan? yes**

**Is supporting after hours service delivery or development part of your 2003-2004 business plan?**

### Useful demographic information

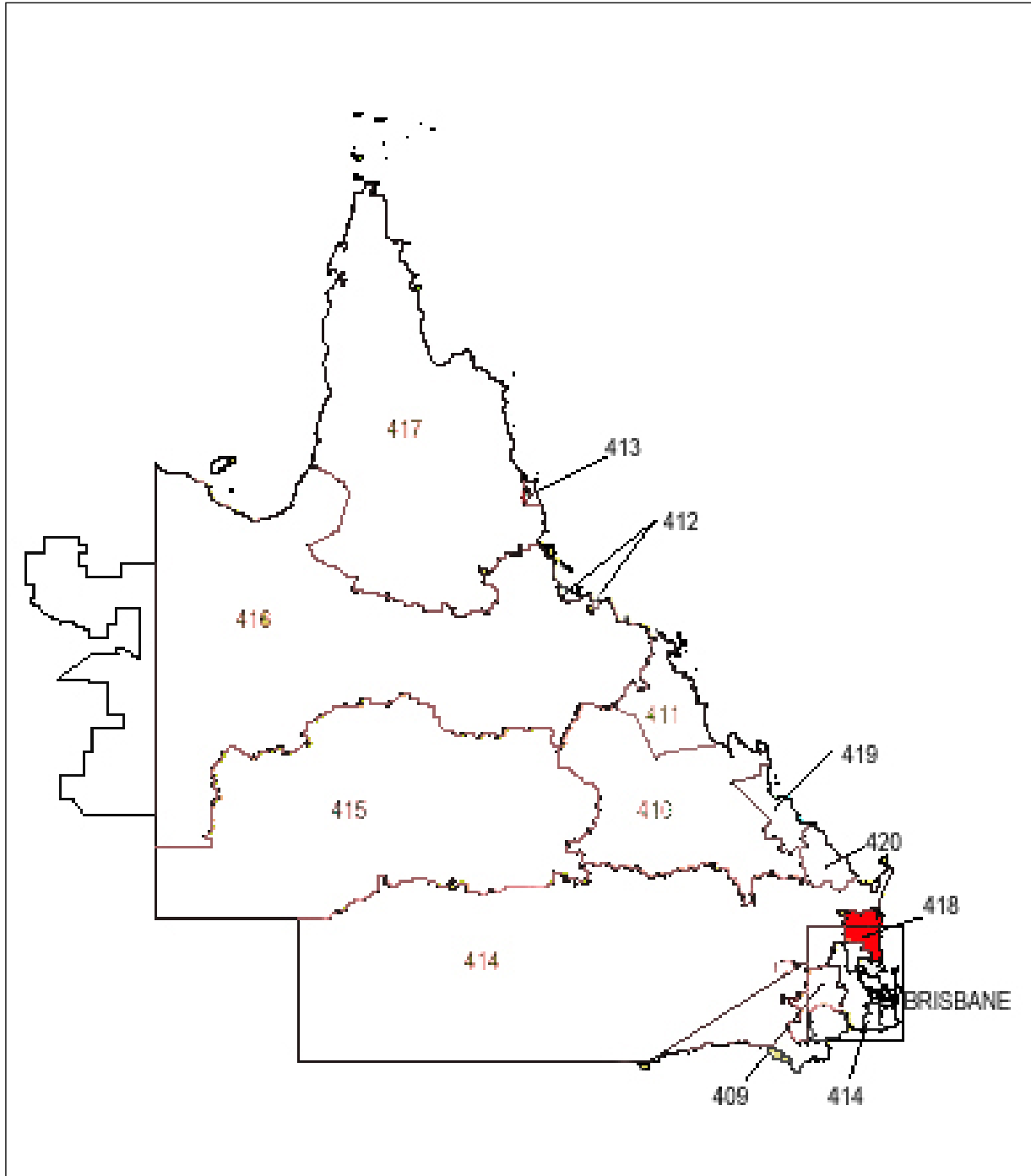
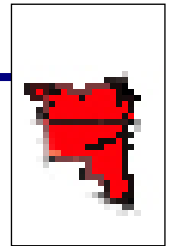
- 12 Chapters (local GP support networks) and 3 regional offices (each with a Liaison Officer) supported by a Head Office in Toowoomba
- 6 Health Service Districts within Division boundaries
- SQRDGP totals 420 325 sq km in area

<b>Services</b>	<b>Details of services</b>	<b>Information and background</b>
<p>Currently there are no contractual, formalised structures that facilitate after hours care through out the Division's regions. However, GPs in towns with more than one general practice have previously drawn up a roster of on-call and after hours care based on mutual agreement. While this is the case, many solo GP towns do not have access to this, increasing the workload and time demands on isolated professionals.</p>		
<p>GPs who participate in informal after hours services also have a certain amount of flexibility due to scheduling and planning one year in advance. In some towns, the MSRPP is responsible for the entire after hours case load, and where possible, may receive support from GPs in the town, at their discretion. The reliance on maintaining hospital doctors in these towns is therefore crucial to the health and wellbeing of the community, as well as the GPs that care for them.</p>		

---

# Sunshine Coast

Division of General Practice



## Quick Contacts

Ph: 07 5456 8888  
Fx: 07 5456 8899

# Sunshine Coast

## Division of General Practice

26 Memorial Avenue  
COTTON TREE QLD 4558  
Ph: 07 5456 8888  
Fx: 07 5456 8899  
Division ID: 418

**Population of the Division:** 281,120 (2001 Census)

**Number of GP members:** 317

**Number of practices:** 101 (group 76; solo 25)

**Estimated number of practicing GPs:** 323

**Number of female GPs:** 100

**Number of overseas trained doctors:** 81

**Number of FTE GPs:** 243.85 (source DoHA 01-02 fin year)

**Ratio of population to GPs:** 1:1153

**Number of public hospitals:** 4

**Number of private hospitals:** 5

**Is the Division involved in the provision of AHPMC?** No

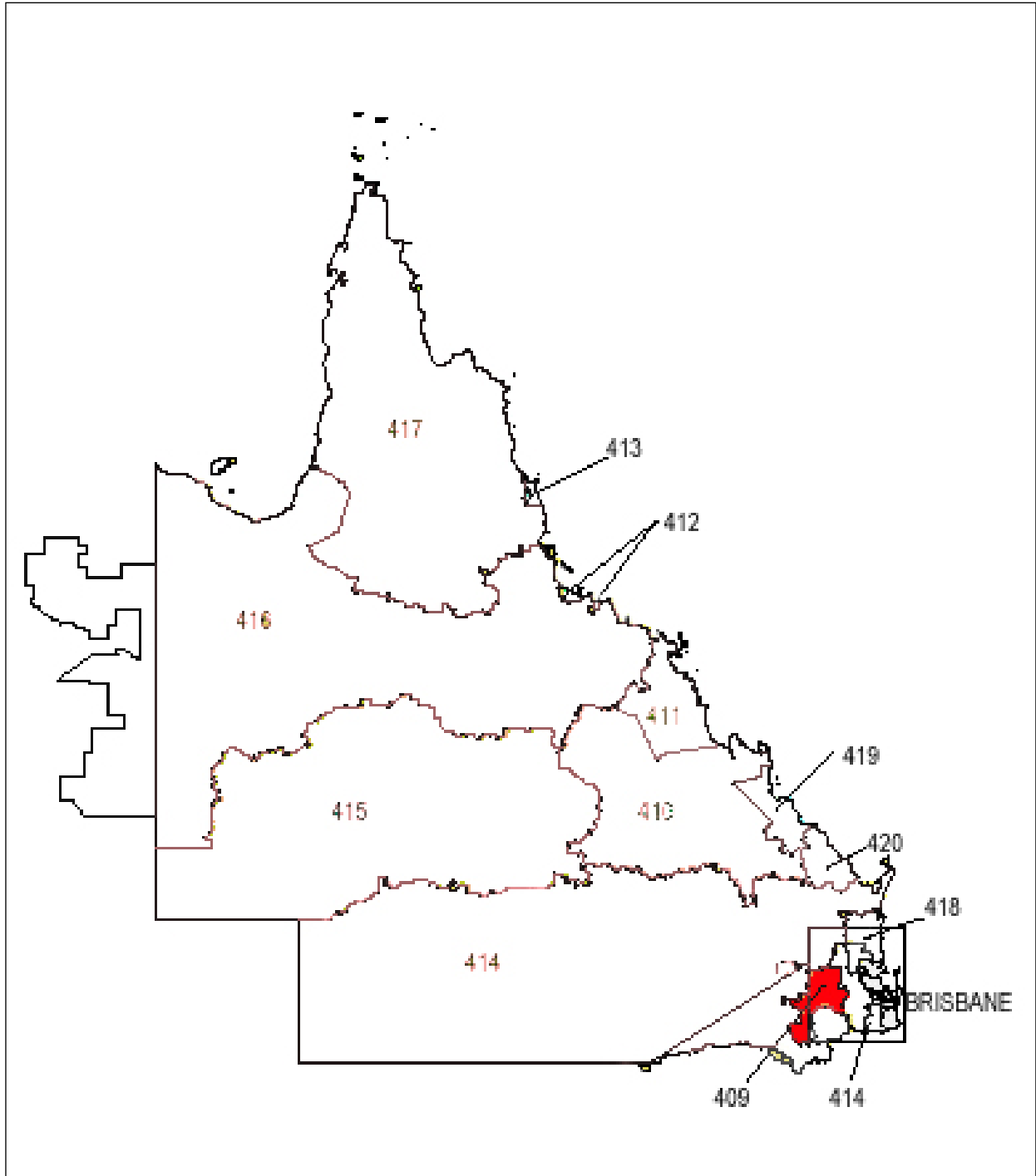
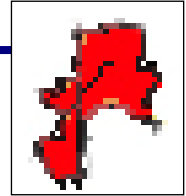
**Did the Division receive any funding from AHPMC grant rounds?** Yes

**Was supporting after hours service or service development part of your 2002-2003 business plan?** Yes

**Is supporting after hours service delivery or development part of your 2003-2004 business plan?** No

<b>Services</b>	<b>Details of services</b>	<b>Information and background</b>
Cooloola Community Private Hospital:, Gympie. GP after hours cooperative commenced July 2001.	Operates on weekends, with GPs providing own coverage on weeknights. Currently has 13 GPs participating.	Infrastructure grant received to assist with the establishment of the service. Has received huge support from Gympie Hospital, easing pressure from 24 hour ED.
Noosa Hospital (part public/part private). Has GP after hours cooperative with over 40 GPs participating.	Operates 6-10pm weekends and public holidays. GPs set and charge own fees. After 10pm, emergencies covered by hospital doctor but no home or nursing home visits.	Hospital provides facility, nurse and consumables.
Caloundra Public Hospital. GP service established, staffed and supported by the Family Care Medical Service.	Clinic open 6-10.30pm weeknights, 12.30-10.30pm Saturday and 8am-10.30pm Sunday and public holidays. Home visit services available 7pm – 7am Monday-Friday and after 12.30pm Saturday until 7am Monday. Service sees participating GPs' patients and will see other patients for a fee.	Covers area from Bli Bli and North Shore to Caloundra.
7 day Clinic at Maroochydore, Nambour, Kawana	Private GP Surgeries	
Other GPs cover own AH care.		

# GP Connections - Toowoomba



## Quick Contacts

Ph: 07 4633 0131  
Fx: 07 4633 0829

# GP Connections - Toowoomba

Suite 18 St Andrew's Hospital  
280 North Street  
TOOWOOMBA QLD 4350  
Ph: 07 4633 0131  
Fx: 07 4633 0829  
Division ID: 409

**Population of the Division:** 147,865 (2001 Census)

**Number of GP members:** 122

**Number of practices:** 75 (group 61; solo 14)

**Estimated number of practicing GPs:** 132

**Number of female GPs:** 47

**Number of overseas trained doctors:** 12

**Number of FTE GPs:** 101.94 (source DoHA 01-02 fin year)

**Ratio of population to GPs:** 1:1450

**Number of public hospitals:** 5

**Number of private hospitals:** 5

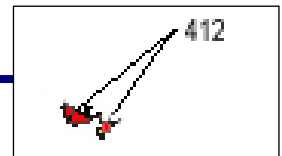
**Is the Division involved in the provision of AHPMC?** No

**Did the Division receive any funding from AHPMC grant rounds?** No

**Was supporting after hours service or service development part of your 2002-2003 business plan?** No

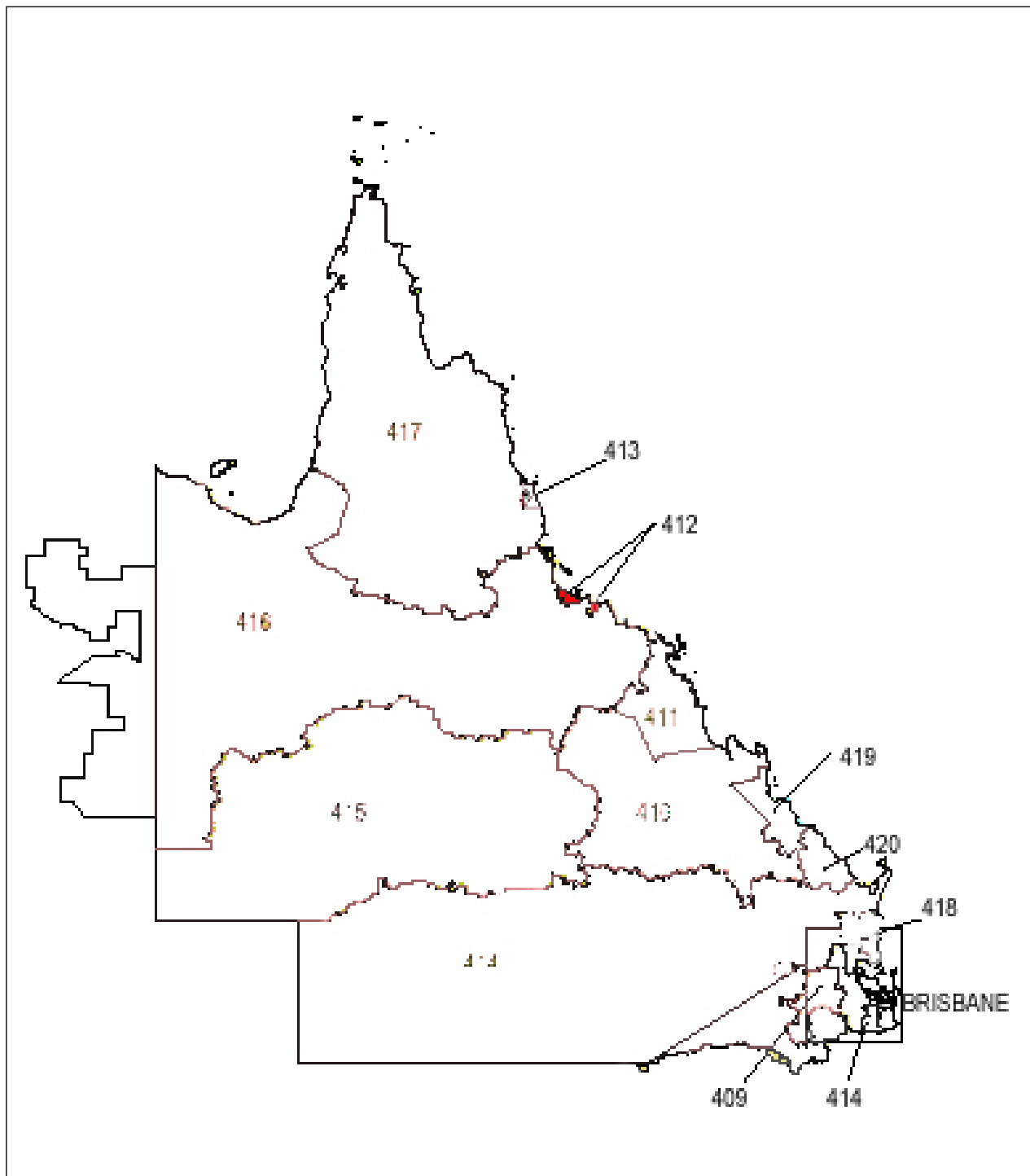
**Is supporting after hours service delivery or development part of your 2003-2004 business plan?** No

<b>Services</b>	<b>Details of services</b>	<b>Information and background</b>
Crows Nest Health & Aged Care has 24 hour ED.	Patients seen by nurse, GP called in if needed.	
Pittsworth & District Friendly Society has 24 hour support.	Seen by nurse, GP called in if needed.	
Gatton Hospital has 24 hour ED.		
GP after hours service	Has GP on-call cooperative worked out locally amongst GPs.	
Oakey Hospital has 24 hour ED.		
GP after hours service	Has large GP practice with training registrars, organise roster system for after hours.	
Private GP AH Clinic based at St Vincent's Hospital	GP clinic 5-10pm and on call arrangements that looks after patients of the twenty participating GPs	
Solo GPs	In Toowoomba, there are 8-10 GP groups of solo practices who look after their own patients after hours.	
James Neil Clinic	Has roster system that sees their patients and those of participating practices. Will also see non-aligned patients	
Toowoomba Hospital - 24 hour ED	Public state funded ED attached to the main hospital.	
Non AH Clinics	Some practices do not have after hours services and refer patients to nearest ED.	



# Townsville

Division of General Practice



## Quick Contacts

Ph: 07 4725 8915

Fx: 07 4725 8921

# Townsville

## Division of General Practice

Unit 4

106 Dalrymple Service Road

CURRAJONG QLD 4812

Ph: 07 4725 8915

Fx: 07 4725 8921

Division ID: 412

**Population of the Division:** 141,687 (2001 Census)

**Number of GP members:** 134

**Number of practices:** 33 (group 23; solo 10)

**Estimated number of practicing GPs:** 155

**Number of female GPs:** 67

**Number of overseas trained doctors:** not known

**Number of FTE GPs:** 81.95 (source DoHA 01-02 fin year)

**Ratio of population to GPs:** 1:1729

**Number of public hospitals:** 1

**Number of private hospitals:** 2 +2 day surgery

**Is the Division involved in the provision of AHPMC?** Yes

**Did the Division receive any funding from AHPMC grant rounds?** After Hours Service Development Grant received to look at enhancing the existing cooperative service based at the Wesley Park Haven Hospital and establishing a second after hours site based next to the Townsville hospital. The project commenced in November 2001.

**Was supporting after hours service or service development part of your 2002-2003 business plan?** Yes

**Is supporting after hours service delivery or development part of your 2003-2004 business plan?** Yes

### Useful demographic information

#### After Hours Service Development Grant

The after hours model involves enhancing the existing cooperative service based at the Wesley Park Haven hospital and establishing a second after hours site based next to the Townsville hospital, with a linking triage system and an on-call system supported by a call centre overnight. The project commenced in November 2001.

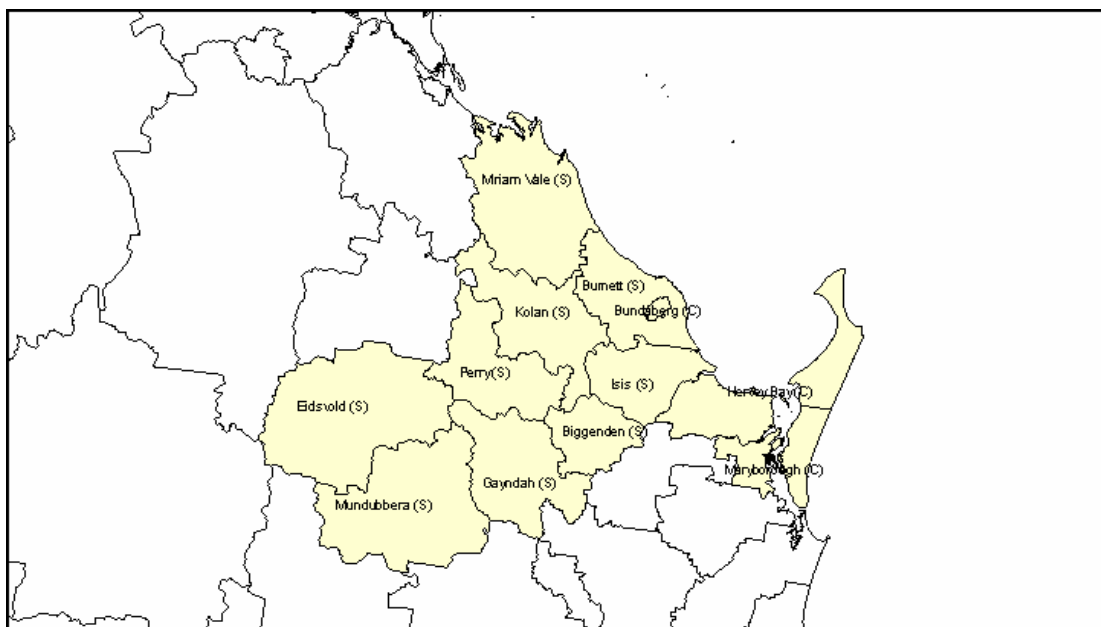
The 2<sup>nd</sup> site was opened and the 1<sup>st</sup> site closed as an economics report showed lack of viability in 2 sites and the Douglas site as being the most suitable

<b>Services</b>	<b>Details of services</b>	<b>Information and background</b>
<p>The Douglas GP Cooperative service 6-10pm weekdays 12-10pm Sat 81am-10pm Sun /PH.</p>	<p>Share resources with another service – UniHealth. Patients are charged. Have own reception and nursing staff</p>	<p>Service was working to capacity until Oct 2002. Now service throughput poor</p>
<p>Healthlink, Cranbrook (BB Clinic), open extended hours and weekends. There are a number of other clinics which open extended hours.</p>		
<p>GPs cover own after hours.</p>		
<p>Townsville General Hospital has 24 hour ED.</p>		
<p>The Douglas GP Cooperative service 6-10pm weekdays 12-10pm Sat 81am-10pm Sun /PH.</p>	<p>Share resources with another service – UniHealth. Patients are charged. Have own reception and nursing staff</p>	<p>Service was working to capacity until Oct 2002. Now service throughput poor</p>
<p>Healthlink, Cranbrook (BB Clinic), open extended hours and weekends. There are a number of other clinics which open extended hours.</p>		

---

# Wide Bay

## Division of General Practice



## Quick Contacts

Ph: 07 4151 0814

Fx: 07 4151 0794

# Wide Bay

## Division of General Practice

Shop 1b

36 Barolin Street

BUNDABERG QLD 4670

Ph: 07 4151 0814

Fx: 07 4151 0794

Division ID: 421

**Population of the Division:** 161 609 (2001 Census)

**Number of Division members:** 122 GP Members, 9 Associate Members & 1 Honorary Member

**Number of practices:** 57

**Estimated number of practicing GPs:** 156

**Number of female GPs:** 46

**Number of overseas trained GPs:** 41

**Number of FTE GPs:** 143.06

**Ratio of population to GPs:** 1:1130

**Number of public hospitals:** 9 (covering 3 Health Service Districts)

**Number of private hospitals:** 3

**Is the Division involved in the provision of AHPMC?** No

**Did the Division receive any funding from AHPMC grant rounds?** Yes. Had an after hours seeding funding (Consortium: Southern Qld Rural Division and Bundaberg Div) to investigate and develop strategies for enhancing existing AHS in the Wide Bay Region involving Maryborough, Hervey Bay, North Burnett, Gin Gin & Childers, Miram Vale & Agnes Waters.

**Was supporting after hours service or service development part of your 2002-2003 business plan?** No

**Is supporting after hours service delivery or development part of your 2003-2004 business plan?** No

### Useful demographic information

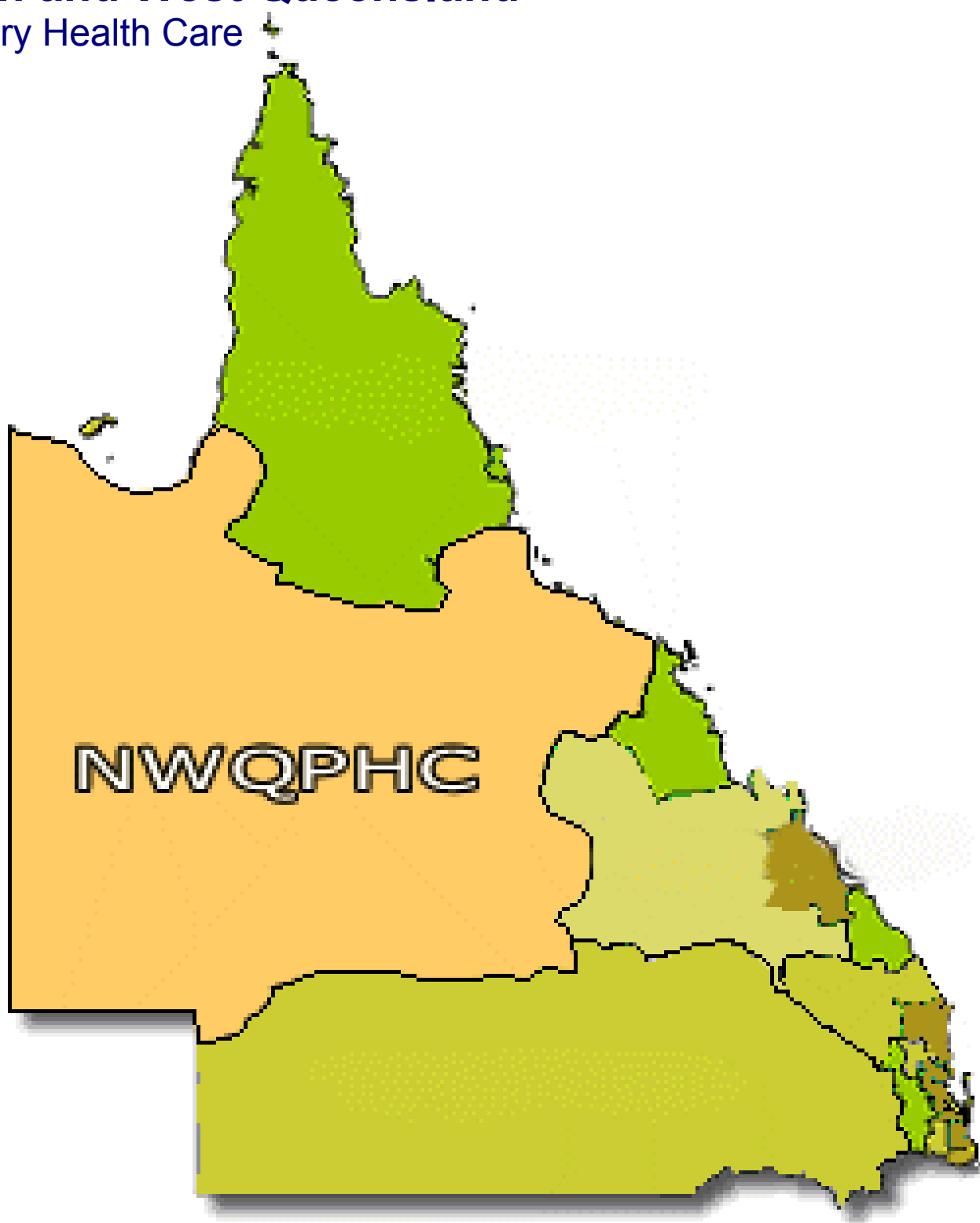
Population set to double in 20 Years. Wide Bay is a popular retirement area with 17% of the population aged 65+, and 26% aged 45-64. 11 out of 12 local government areas are in the lowest 40% of the states socioeconomic disadvantaged centres in Queensland with an average SEIFA Index rating of 934.79 for the district.

Services	Details of services	Information and background
<p>Bundaberg After Hours Medical Service (BAHMS) is a collaborative GP roster system with 72% of Bundaberg GP practices participating.</p>	<p>BAHMS opened Monday to Friday from 6.00pm – 11.00pm, Saturday from 12.00md to 11.00pm, and Sunday 8.00am to 11.00pm. From 11.00pm to 8.00am rostered GP on call seven days of the week. Public holiday hours same as those on Sunday.</p>	
<p>Childers, Gin Gin and Agnes Water GPs provide own AH cover independently. GPs in North Burnett also provide their own after hours service independently. Most GPs in Hervey Bay and Maryborough provide AH services as part of a small group of practices on a roster system, with only a couple of solo practitioners providing AH service independently.</p>		
<p>Friendly Society Private Hospital planning to commence after hours service from their premises in early 2004.</p>	<p>At this stage, not sure of details regarding how this service will operate.</p>	

---

# North and West Queensland

## Primary Health Care



### Quick Contacts

Ph: 07 4725 8868

Fx: 07 4725 5122

# North and West Primary Health Care

## Division of General Practice

Unit 5

106 Dalrymple Service Road

CURRAJONG QLD 4812

Ph: 07 4725 8868

Fx: 07 4725 5122

Division ID: 416

**Population of the Division:** 115,507 (2001 Census)

**Number of GP members:** 79

**Number of practices:** 26 (group 16; solo 10)

**Estimated number of practicing GPs:** 56

**Number of female GPs:** 10

**Number of overseas trained doctors:** 22

**Number of FTE GPs:** 46.24 (source DoHA 01-02 fin year)

**Ratio of population to GPs:** 1:2498

**Number of public hospitals:** 21

**Number of private hospitals:** 0

**Is the Division involved in the provision of AHPMC?** No

**Did the Division receive any funding from AHPMC grant rounds?** No

**Was supporting after hours service or service development part of your 2002-2003 business plan?** No

**Is supporting after hours service delivery or development part of your 2003-2004 business plan?** No

### Useful demographic information

Large in area, but small in population.

Workforce major problem with up to 50% turnover each year.

RFDS provides services from Cairns and Mt Isa, covering district.

Services	Details of services	Information and background
Mount Isa has GP roster system to cover after hours in hospital. RFDS provide services from Mt Isa base		
Rosters	In the larger centres (Mount Isa, Ingham, Ayr, Bowen, Charters Towers, Longreach) GPs operate a roster system to cover after hours services.	
RFDS	RFDS provide services from Mt Isa & Charleville	
QHealth	In all small centres with hospitals (1 or 2 doctor towns), where doctors are employed by QHealth as medical officers with rights to private practice, these doctors are responsible for after hours services.	
Cardwell	This is a unique situation – a private GP but no QHealth hospital – provision of all after hours services is at the discretion of the GP.	