



ASX ANNOUNCEMENT

29 September 2005

RAMSAY HEALTH CARE - HOSPITAL DIVESTMENT UPDATE

Ramsay Health Care Limited will proceed to finalising the previously announced sale of 14 hospitals to Healthscope Limited after the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) advised it would not oppose the acquisition.

The ACCC's decision has clarified the number of hospitals (5) Ramsay will offer for sale to those who have expressed interest in acquiring hospitals from Ramsay. Ramsay will continue negotiating the sale of these additional five hospitals to parties other than Healthscope in line with Ramsay's undertaking to the ACCC.

Ramsay Managing Director Pat Grier said: "We are pleased that the ACCC has not opposed the sale of the 14 hospitals to Healthscope. The sale realizes a strong return for Ramsay and provides certainty of ownership for the hospitals going forward.

"We are also pleased the ACCC has agreed to Ramsay retaining North West Brisbane Private Hospital, rather than Sunnybank."

"Ramsay has received expressions of interest from a number of parties in acquiring the additional five hospitals we are required to sell and are confident of achieving competitive prices in line with this interest," Mr Grier said.

After the divestment of these 19 hospitals, Ramsay will have a portfolio of 70 hospitals (including 3 in Indonesia), representing more than 7,500 beds.

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