

23 December 2016

SELECT COMMITTEE ON OFF-PROTOCOL PRESCRIBING OF CHEMOTHERAPY IN NSW

Inquiry into off-protocol prescribing of chemotherapy in New South Wales

HEARING: SYDNEY, MONDAY 31 OCTOBER 2016

NSW Health – Ms Karen Crawshaw

The Hon. WALT SECORD: So there are eight patients or their families in New South Wales who are unaware that they were underdosed at Macquarie University hospital.

Ms CRAWSHAW: The latest information is from 24 October. It is now 31 October. We will follow this up to see whether we can provide any assistance in locating the eight patients.

The Hon. WALT SECORD: So eight patients still have not been contacted?

Ms CRAWSHAW: That is correct. Of the 21, 13 have been contacted.

ANSWER (provided on 28 November 2016):

Since the Hearing, the Ministry has been advised that the Hospital has contacted 18 patients or their families. The Hospital sought the assistance of the Ministry to confirm if there was any further and more up-to-date information held by the Ministry that could assist them in contacting the three remaining patients.

The Ministry provided assistance and confirmed that two patients were deceased and the information held by the Ministry matched exactly on name, address, sex and date of birth, to the information provided by the Hospital. The remaining patient was admitted to a public hospital in 2014 and was discharged home. The home address for the admission was the same as provided by the Hospital and there are no subsequent linked records for this person.

The Hospital confirms that it has not been able to contact any of the three patients or their families.

The Ministry is confident the Hospital has acted in all good faith and has made all reasonable efforts to contact these patients and their families and unless a family member comes forward all avenues for contact have been exhausted.

FURTHER UPDATE (December 2016)

The Ministry is advised that the Hospital has now contacted the remaining three patients or their families.