

**Submission
No 164**

**INQUIRY INTO REGISTERED NURSES IN NEW SOUTH
WALES NURSING HOMES**

Organisation: Country Women's Association of NSW - Grattai
Date received: 12/08/2015



Country Women's Association of NSW

Incorporated in 1931 by an Act of NSW Parliament

GRATTAI

All Communication to be addressed to the Secretary of _____

Branch/Group

<http://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/prod/parlment/committee.nsf/0/D7A6228FCC493975CA257E6F0024A87D>

SUBMISSION RE INQUIRY INTO REGISTERED NURSES IN NURSING HOMES IN NEW SOUTH WALES

At a recent meeting members of the Grattai CWA were unanimous in the decision to write a submission regarding registered nurses in nursing homes in New South Wales.

Some members have information about how registered nurses are treated at nursing homes in Mudgee.

The following issues were raised:

1. Registered nurses are not required to be on night shift but are asked to be on call in case they are needed to dispense urgent medication.
2. If a patient becomes very ill during the night the staff on duty have to contact the registered nurse on call and ask them to come into the facility as they are not qualified to make a decision about the patient or whether to call an ambulance or not.
3. Nurses are paid under the award rate and if they wish to be either casual or permanent part-time they need to sign a contract accepting the rate of pay offered. The pay offered is sometimes well below the rate that other nursing staff at other nursing homes are receiving.
4. The adequacy of nurse to patient ratios for high level residents is also disturbing.

We hope that this submission assists with the inquiry.

Kaye Holding
President

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12 AUG 2015

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