

Submission  
No 15

## INQUIRY INTO DENTAL SERVICES IN NSW

**Organisation:**

**Name:** Ms Joy Mount

**Telephone:**

**Date Received:** 12/05/2005

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**Theme:**

**Summary**

9th May, 05

The Jay Mount

The Director of Standing Committee on Social Issues  
Legislative Council  
Parliament House

Sydney 2000.

Re: Inquiry into Dental Services in N.S.W.

Dear Sir/Madam,

As an aged Pensioner I am writing to make my submission to the Inquiry into Dental Services in N.S.W.

Over the years I received adequate care from the Dental Clinic in Orange N.S.W., but in the last 4/5 yrs the service has been reduced to almost nothing & a wait that goes on & on. Firstly to get an appointment you must ring a Call Centre & explain to some young person your symptoms, then you wait for the clinic to ring you & this doesn't always happen. How does one explain pain over the phone?

If I could have received fillings that stayed in I would be writing to-day. I was told & experienced poor quality filling material & instruments or lack of them.

The only thing left for the dentists is to pull the teeth as when a private assessment said it was not necessary I couldn't afford the private dentist on my pension.

It's about 5 yrs that I haven't eaten solid food, it must be soft mush, therefore I lost a lot of weight to the point that the dietician thought I was bordering on Anorexia.

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When the private dentist told me the face & ear pain would not go away until I get an upper & lower partial denture, no one wanted to listen. because Doctors & Dentists do not communicate even when your overall health starts with your mouth, so on losing weight & always in pain the Doctor started me on a round of C.T scans, Ultra sounds & Nuclear Medicine scans & X.Rays & had to finally put me on an injection every 3 weeks of what I believe is a steroid to build my weight up. It's very expensive & needs permission from Canberra. This was prescribe by the specialist I ended up at, Nothing was found by all this expensive run around except I was thin (under 7 stone) therefore all I needed was inexpensive dental care in the beginning when I told my Doctor it was that I couldn't eat correctly. The Dental Clinic would have taken all my teeth out but I wouldn't let them, now they have said a number of times that as I have a few teeth left I must wait 18 months or more when I'm now into the 5th year of pain & illness to get dentures. I'm 73 this month, so how old will I be?

I would like a voucher for the local Dentist but I'm sure you would not get one for the 2 or 3000 dollars he would charge. I would rather go without than get some inferior quality dentures that don't work. Please couldn't dentists be allowed to Bulk Bill as teeth are part of our body, the very important part.

I thank you for considering this submission as part of your inquiry

Yours most Sincerely

J Mount (ms)