

**Submission**

**No 43**

## **INQUIRY INTO THE ROYAL NORTH SHORE HOSPITAL**

**Name:** Mr Philip Lee

**Date Received:** 12/11/2007

---

I was transferred to Royal North Shore (RNSH) from Kempsey District Hospital on 11th August 2005, following an earlier stroke after dissection of right carotid artery on Saturday 30th July 2005. I had an initial Angiogram on the following day. On the 23rd August I had a further Angiogram and I was told a stent would be put in, however this could not be done as artery was still blocked so I was transferred back to ward after Recovery. At 3pm Dr Assizzi tested my hand grip and I experienced very strong stomach spasms and realised I was in trouble. Whilst I complained at length to nurses they did not recognise my symptoms as internal bleeding. I did not see a doctor until later that evening when a CT scan revealed a major internal bleed and I was scheduled for emergency surgery. I spent the following three days in the ICU and was told by different people I had almost died. My impression was the shortage of doctors on that evening who could recognise my symptoms as life threatening was inadequate and could have led to my death.