

**Submission
No 3**

**INQUIRY INTO OFF-PROTOCOL PRESCRIBING OF
CHEMOTHERAPY IN NSW**

Name: Ms Debra Smith

Date received: 6 October 2016

My mother, Patricia Holt, aged 83 years, who has been a private patient of Dr Phadke, has been very happy with the treatment he has given her and has every confidence in him. She has thrived in his care, largely because he is prepared to individualise the treatment to the particular patient.

We would trust in Dr Phadke's experience over a set of medical protocols any day. When my mother was admitted to Sutherland Hospital with pneumonia in 2014 there were some doctors at the hospital who wished to give her a bone marrow biopsy against her stated wishes. We asked that the hospital consult Dr Phadke first as he was well aware of her strong objection to having the procedure. He had been flexible enough to treat my mother, with notable success, by alternative means of diagnosis. We think this shows him to be a skilled doctor not an incompetent one.

In effect he is humane, empathetic and able to balance her medical needs for leukaemia treatment with her other age related needs. He is a good listener and has always explained matters clearly to us. He has always liaised with Mum's GP after every appointment. His care and the respect with which he treats my mother is very much appreciated.

We deplore the haste to judgement of him evident in the media as we feel strongly, from our own experience, that Dr Phadke would always act in the interests of his patients.

Debra Smith

On behalf of

Patricia Holt