

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

Name: Mr William (Bill) Peters

Date received: 19 October 2016

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

My name is William Peters and I was diagnosed with Stage 4 Small Cell Lung Cancer in February 1995 and from March 1995 Dr Kiran Phadke has been the primary doctor in charge of my treatment. My prognosis at the time wasn't good but with the dedicated care and treatment I received from Dr Kiran Phadke and his team over the past 21 years I am still here.

I am now feeling very distressed by the allegations of off-protocol prescribing of chemotherapy by Dr Kiran Phadke. At all times over the past 21 years I have found Dr Kiran Phadke to be caring, considerate and very knowledgeable regarding the treatment I have needed. He has always been extremely approachable and honest regarding any treatment. The Sutherland Shire and St George area residents will be done a great disservice should Dr Phadke not return to his practice. We need more doctors like Dr Phadke not less.

- (a) With regard to the efficacy of electronic prescribing systems, I feel that these may serve a purpose but I believe the doctor is still in the best position to determine the dosage of any drugs particularly chemotherapy,
- (b) I can see the value in patient information sheets on dose adjustment for patients,
- (c) I feel that there has to be guidelines and systems in place regardless but so long as these are flexible and appropriate for each individual particularly when we are talking about cancer.
- (d) I don't think I like the sound of this idea, to me this sounds like treatment by a committee. I know Dr Phadke would discuss my case history with his team and other doctors but I always felt that he was in charge and I was happy with that knowledge. And he always listened to how I felt about the treatment and various symptoms that arose over time. He is a great believer in the patient knowing their body better than anyone.
- (e) Not relevant to me.
- (f) Not relevant to me.

William Peters
19 October 2016