

**INQUIRY INTO OPERATION AND MANAGEMENT OF
THE NORTHERN BEACHES HOSPITAL**

Name: Marian Gill
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I refer to your request for submissions in relation to the enquiry into the operation of the Northern Beaches Hospital and wish to make the following submission.

I have had 2 admissions to the hospital in March and cannot fault in any way the care and attention I received. My admissions through ER were quick and I received treatment promptly. The staff, from the nurses, doctors, specialists, radiologists, the women who brought the menu selection and even the young men who escorted me to the Radiology unit and, when I left, to the carpark, were amazing. They all were cheerful, polite and competent. The nurse who looked after me in ER told me her mother was a nurse in Ireland and had 40 patients under her care whereas she only had 8 patients to look after. I had a myriad of tests which were completely covered by Medicare.

I live in an over 55 complex of some 200+ units and naturally many of us have attended the hospital. There has been nothing but praise from everyone here who has been admitted and gone through ER. My family has, over the years, attended Mona Vale Hospital, Manly Hospital and RNSH and the care received has been anything but satisfactory. In fact some years ago we were advised to take our young daughter into emergency at RNSH one evening and next morning, after sitting with my husband in the waiting room all night, she had still not been seen by a doctor. He ended up bringing her home and taking her to our GP. A few years ago she was admitted to a ward in the new RNS hospital where the conditions were approaching third world standards and were too horrific to mention here.

If I need any tests or surgery in the future, I will ensure I find out which doctors practice at the Northern Beaches Hospital so I can be referred to them, rather than any of the other hospitals in my area. The hospital is spacious and bright, the decor is wonderful and not what one would expect from a hospital. There is no institutional feel to the place as one usually has in a hospital, but it rather has the feel of a first class hotel. Any problems there may have been, when it was opened, have completely disappeared.

I fail to see why it is necessary for an enquiry to be conducted into the Northern Beaches Hospital, except as a political exercise and think the money for the enquiry could be spent on more worthwhile projects. It is well known that residents on the beaches have been against the new hospital because they preferred to have both Mona Vale and Manly Hospitals renovated as they were closer to where they lived.

We are extremely fortunate to have such a state of the art hospital in our midst and I find it reassuring to know that in future I can go to hospital confident in the knowledge that I will be cared for in a sympathetic and extremely competent manner.

I would be happy to provide any more information if required.

MARIAN GILL