

Submission  
No 134

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

**Name:** Name suppressed

**Date Received:** 27 July 2019

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Partially  
Confidential

My Father needed an urgent surgical procedure recently and was transported by ambulance to the Northern beaches hospital my mother who does not drive accompanied him and did not have time to grab her mobile phone, It took some time for my mother to track me down to let me know what had happened and i attended the hospital to pick her up (there is no direct public transport to our area). Over the next 3-4 days i found it almost impossible to transport my mother and support my father as the hospital is at the best 45min in one direction from our home at Whale beach and in peak hour can be up to 1.5hrs and that is if the Wakhurst parkway is in good shape. My Father went without family support during this time as we could simply not get there during acceptable visiting hours.

I work as a carer for elderly people in our local community and have waited aprox. 50 minutes with an elderly lady who had fallen with a suspected fracture in her hip the Ambulance was in our street and about to arrive before being diverted at the last minute to a higher priority incident.

I am on the road most of the daylight hours over the course of a normal day and most of this time is in our local area, I have noticed a significant increase in Ambulance and emergency services sirens on heading up the peninsula. We need a local Emergency department and i know that if i or any of my family needed an ambulance and i could get them in my car I would not wait for an ambulance but start heading to emergency myself as i do not have faith in the availability of ambulances in our local area and we live aprox. 1km from an ambulance station. Very frightening situation.