

**INQUIRY INTO HEALTH OUTCOMES AND ACCESS TO  
HEALTH AND HOSPITAL SERVICES IN RURAL,  
REGIONAL AND REMOTE NEW SOUTH WALES**

**Name:** Name suppressed  
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Partially  
Confidential

Three weeks ago as I was doing the dishes after dinner I cut open my foot on a broken plate after presenting at the Coolah Mps I was told there was no doctor on duty to stitch my foot and that a Telehealth appointment was available I had no idea how the doctor through a screen was going to stitch my foot.

After over an hour of the nurse trying to stop the bleeding I was sent home with this injury unstitched as the nurse told me they were not allowed to stitch it. Having to return to the Mps last week as there was a piece of plate in my other foot that wasn't even checked at the time ,to be removed when the nurse took my obs my blood pressure was an issue as it was way too high. Again no doctor on duty with the offer of a Telehealth appointment I asked the nurse what was the Telehealth doctor able do to? To which she responded tell you to follow up with your GP when you can.

As there is only one GP in town the soonest appointment was several weeks to get into see a doctor to address his high blood pressure issue. I guess it's fingers crossed that I'll be okay until then. I feel that this is totally unacceptable level of healthcare in Australia if this situation was happening on the coast or in a big city it would be totally unacceptable therefore I can't understand what is acceptable in rural areas.

This situation has me seriously considering if it is even viable to stay living in this town as I'm a single parent and I feel that it is not safe to live in a place with no doctor for emergencies

That could be life or death.