

Submission
No 88

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

Name: Name suppressed
Date Received: 30 November 2020

Partially
Confidential

The Coolamon Ganmain MPS is a small 14 bed hospital with emergency acute and aged care. This hospital requires more beds as for acute and a palliative care suite also an allocation of more staff as there is only 1 registered nurse and 1 enrolled nurse and 1 assistant in nursing for the morning and afternoon shift with 1 registered nurse and 1 enrolled nurse on the 10 hr night shift. If the emergency department gets busy the enrolled nurse is expected to help with the emergency leaving the assistant alone and as there has to be 2 people with each of person for care the care is delayed.

This hospital has been running with vacancies for registered nurses and enrolled nurses for over 12 months and the current staff are exhausted trying to cover the shifts doing 12 to 20 hr shifts to give cover. In addition we rely on the GP doctor to leave the practice and attend the emergency which doesn't help for speedy attention and discharge or transfer to another hospital. We have agency staff to try and cover but due to the Dr and the set up will not return to the hospital again.

We are a remote and rural hospital covering a large area of the Coolamon Junee and Narrandera shire. Our clients come from a very wide area. We seem to be the forgotten group in addition with now having an ambulance station in Coolamon all these cases have to come to our emergency department again putting strain on our nursing staff.