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

My son hurt his finger at school on a Monday. We couldn't get an appointment with the GP so went to our local hospital. The nurses there were fantastic but there were no doctors.

We had to see a doctor via a computer screen to get an xray referral. We waited for 4 hours when i decided that we had to leave to get my daughter from pre school.

The nurses put a splint on it and we left. We got a referral for x-ray on Tuesday but we had no x-ray person in town that day.

We finally had x-ray on the Wednesday morning but still no doctor at our hospital so xray had to get sent away.

We didn't hear back until Friday that he had a fractured thumb and needed plaster. 5 days after my son fractured his thumb we had a result.

It took 2 days for a doctor to read an x-ray and give us the result. That is unacceptable!

He is a 12 year old boy with autism so we are just lucky that he didn't do more damage. 7 weeks later we are finally out of plaster, awaiting further x-ray results to see if it had healed properly.