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

After 4 mths hospitalisation, on discharge, accessing Level 3 Aged Care Package, need catheter changed for IDC, in home nursing refuses to attend, Paramedics transfer to hospital, admitted to E.D., @ 10:00 a.m., discharged @ 5:00 p.m. with catheter replaced. Impact on emergency staff (paramedics & E.D.), patient, carer, family, etc. Time, cost, resources, etc.

Prior to Level 3, Community Health had come to home at no charge. Now service (private in home nursing) costs us \$145 per hour, min. 2 hours, plus travel!

Patient has broken back, is immobile, is confined to hospital bed, needs 24 hour assistance with personal care, etc.