

Submission  
No 156

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

**Name:** Name suppressed  
**Date Received:** 9 December 2020

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Partially  
Confidential

In August 2017 my husband suffered a ruptured bowel. I called the ambulance, which took him to Oberon Hospital. He lay in the emergency bed for more than five hours before a doctor saw him. During that time, the emergency call button was out of reach. It was only when I came into town to see what was going on that I remedied that.

My husband was eventually transferred to Bathurst hospital by patient transport!

Staff totally misread the situation. This was a potentially fatal incident and indeed, when my husband finally arrived at the Bathurst hospital, he underwent emergency surgery in the middle of the night. He could have died.

I wrote to the hospital administration but to this day, I have not had a reply.

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission.