

**Submission  
No 169**

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

**Organisation:** Bay Medical Group

**Date Received:** 10 December 2020

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## Critical Shortage of Doctors in the Port Stephens Area

After over 30 years the Nelson Bay Medical Centre will close its doors as we can longer run 3 practices since 2018 the government changed the our area to NON DPA or Area of Need meaning we can longer recruit overseas trained Doctors either living in Australia or overseas. Since 2018 we have lost 4 Doctors and cannot replace them - We train GP Registrars but cannot keep them once they finished.

Doctors are burnt out cannot keep going like this so all demand holidays at the same time.

We have 5 Doctors working over Christmas Period!