

**Submission
No 195**

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

Name: Mr Allan Small
Date Received: 4 December 2020

I recently had a bad experience with telehealth at Condobolin emergency. Long story short they miss diagnosed my illness.

The Telehealth doctor told me I had gastro when I actually had appendicitis. I believe the nurse thought it was a serious stomach issue however was over ruled by the tele health doctor.

Unhappy with this diagnosis I travelled to Forbes hospital (100km away) where a doctor assessed me in person than admitted me and commenced treatment for an infection.

Further testing found it to be appendicitis. My appendix where then removed 5 days later.

This potentially fatal mistake I believe could have been averted if there was a doctor in person at the Condobolin emergency department.

The nurses in Condobolin are exceptional and did a great job. IT WAS TELEHEALTH THAT LET THE HOSPITAL DOWN.

I cannot workout how you can have an emergency department without a doctor on site.