

Submission  
No 230

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

**Name:** Miss Samantha Bayley  
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Partially  
Confidential

I was diagnosed with Crohn's disease at age 16 in 2008.

In 2017 I had become very ill and had been repeatedly seeing both my GP and specialist in Wagga Wagga however my specialist at the time, Dr [redacted] had sent me home after every appointment with the same story; 'But you seem fine right now so it can't be anything serious' he would say and lean back in his chair with his arms crossed and told me to come back if it got worse. Which it did. And I came back repeatedly and had my GP angrily calling to book appointment after appointment as she could see immediately how sick I had become. This went on for 6 months and he never once remembered what we spoke about on the previous visit which was always the same anyway.

Eventually after friends and family gave up hope of him helping me they begged me to get a referral to a new doctor, however before that could happen I became so sick I ended up in ED and in turn ended up having to have 4 surgeries to remove a large portion of my bowel, clean up leaks which had also formed a large growth on my ovaries and Fallopian tubes - to which I may now not be able to have children - and an ileostomy bag.

I also learnt more about my disease in one appointment with my surgeon, Dr [redacted] than in 9 years of having Dr [redacted] as a specialist.

I refused to go back and see Dr [redacted] and also told everyone I knew my experience who was referred to him so they would not get the same treatment.

I have since had the best experience with all other doctors including specialists in Sydney and Melbourne.