

**Submission
No 421**

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

Name: Mrs Elizabeth Mayberry

Date Received: 12 January 2021

Re: Health outcomes and access to health and hospital services in rural, regional and remote NSW inquiry.

I am a resident of Mudgee, central NSW and am very concerned about the lack of access to GPs in our region. Currently the waiting time is between two to three weeks for an appointment with a GP at the Mudgee Medical Centre. This situation leads to people visiting the hospital after hours for problems that could otherwise be treated in a doctors surgery, and therefore clogging up the hospital system.

A 'GP Access after hours' system, similar to the one provided in the Hunter region, where you can call and speak to a nurse, or if needs be a doctor would provide a service to regional and remote people, keep people out of hospitals who may not need to be there, and take the pressure off our overstretched GPs.