

Submission
No 530

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

Name: Name suppressed
Date Received: 15 January 2021

Partially
Confidential

I am a nurse working on the Surgical unit at Maitland hospital. My concern about the provision of health care in rural areas relates to the lack of scanning and X-ray facilities available at the Maitland hospital.

I am aware of this lack due to the number of staff on our ward that are required to accompany patients off site for scans and X-rays. While this doesn't happen on a daily basis it does happen and impacts on the staff to patient ratios on our ward. If a nurse is required to accompany a patient off site it impacts our patient care day on the ward.

Some days a patient and staff member can be away for most of the shift. While I don't know the stats of this situation I do know that this situation can be multiplied if many patients need to go off site for tests.

If the facilities are not going to be available until the new hospital can we have our nurse...!