

Submission  
No 550

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

**Name:** Name suppressed  
**Date Received:** 14 January 2021

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Partially  
Confidential

My name is \_\_\_\_\_ I am 57 years old and have lived in the Condobolin district all of my life. Condobolin is a farming community with some living on farms up to 200 klm away.

I am very disappointed and disgusted with how our medical needs have been taken from our lovely regional town. Our hospital in Condobolin was one of the best years ago we had surgeons come from Sydney and Orange and we could give birth to our children and had 4 to 5 doctors at all times. Now there are no surgeries performed nor can we have babies at our hospital, we have from 1 to 3 Doctors and only one Doctor permitted to go to the hospital??? and on too many occasions we have had no Doctor at all.

We now have to travel to Forbes to have babies and Orange for surgical procedures. This means it is a 100 klm to 400 klm one way trip for some in our community to travel. My son lives 30klm from town he had to take his young 5 year old son to the hospital at 9.30pm one night, when he was seen at the hospital by a nurse he was then informed that he had to travel a further 100 klm to Forbes to have his boy assessed by a doctor, he travelled to Forbes saw the Doctor and arrived home at 1.15am the next morning with an antibiotic. THIS IS OUTRAGEOUS.. His wife was at home with the other children worried that he may hit a kangaroo and have an accident, with mobile phones not always working out here in the country, a mother and wives fears are enormous.

We have to wait 1 to 3 weeks for an appointment to see a Doctor at the surgery and if we get too sick we go to the hospital emergency, if it is after 7.00pm we get to talk to a Doctor on a screen which is not what you need when you are feeling sick and the nurses who are not trained to be doctors have the huge responsibility to help diagnose the patient. This is so unfair and unprofessional for the Government to expect. Country people are isolated enough without the government making us feel like they don't care and we don't matter but we DO country people are IMPORTANT as we provide a food source, with out us what would we eat, we are the lucky Country give and show compassion to all Australians not just the city people who can ring and get a doctors appointment within a couple of hours.