

Submission
No 610

**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

Partially
Confidential

14th January 2021

I have been a resident of Condobolin for 53 years and my husband and I have raised our family here in Condobolin. We both worked full time within in the community and paid our taxes. Our children attended the local Primary and High school and then became employed locally and now have families of their own and are active members of our farming and local government employment.

My concerns are the lack of full time medical services at our local Hospital with only one Doctor with Visiting rights (VMO). How many Doctors can have the VMO rights and what prevents them from obtaining these rights. I find this inadequate as we had no Doctors or Medical Centre available to the community over the Christmas and New Year break and this can also happen over weekends and public holidays. We have an ageing community, a considerable amount of young families in town as well as a retirement and nursing village that can lack medical attention if it is not available.

Our Hospital cannot admit children under the age of 2 years which concerns me as I have grandchildren and great grandchildren that may require medical attention at any time. This idea of Telehealth Doctors is very impersonal, ineffective and insulting that we have to talk to a monitor. The staff that are working in our hospital do a very good job but are pushed to their limit due to understaffing.

For specialist treatment, it involves hours of travel and sometimes an overnight stay. Our Ambulance service is not always available to us when needed.

We need the Government to consider us as people not living in a third world country, we pay our taxes and deserve the same consideration given to the City and Metropolitan people. We also have the right to vote and refuse to sit back and be ignored as we are entitled to good Medical care as an Australian citizen.

I look forward to a personal response to my letter and I trust it will be a positive one. No automated response will be appreciated.