

**Submission
No 614**

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

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For too many years now, City based decision makers have been controlling who we get as doctors in regional, rural and remote areas.

It is about time that these decisions were decided by Local, regional, rural and remote area Health Districts based in these areas.

That way we can be assured of receiving adequate health outcomes in our local regional areas that are geared to our specific needs.

There is an abundance of City-based doctors who are only looking for the 'Almighty dollar' and who are not willing to leave their cushy jobs in the City to travel out to be a regional or rural doctor; I suggest that it become a requirement that all graduating Medical Doctors are required to spend at least 2 years in a regional setting and that provider licences be marked with that requirement.

This way we can overcome the shortfall of Medical Doctor's in regional areas in the short term.

A longer far-reaching plan has to be formalised to overcome future doctor shortages in regional areas.

I live in Wellington NSW 49 klms south of Dubbo. In Wellington, it takes at least 6 weeks to see a doctor.

This situation is totally inadequate, as people such as myself need good follow up checking for the conditions that I have, let alone other people with more severe medical conditions.

The current situation is untenable for a so-called modern society.