

Submission
No 650

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

Name: Name suppressed
Date Received: 11 January 2021

Partially
Confidential

I moved to the Regional town of Alstonville in 1995, since 1995 I have had consistent issue's with the Lismore Base Hospital, and these issue's continue to this day.

In 1997 I was left untreated for 3 day's after a cystoscopy, my specialist removed my catheter on the Friday morning and I was unable to pass urine until Monday 6pm as there were NO on call urologist to treat me over the weekend.

On Monday morning the Nurse Unit Manager wanted to discharge me before being able to pass urine. The Nurse Unit Managers told my wife I was constipated due to me using Panadene Forte, my wife informed the NUM that I hadn't passed urine since Friday PM, and my wife insisted I stay in hospital until I could see a urologist.

I was in excruciating pain all weekend and at 6pm on the Monday afternoon a Urologist came to see me and catheterised me using an introducer, he drained 3 litres from my bladder.

In 1998 - 2003 I had numerous visits to the Lismore Base Hospital Emergency Department, due to severe bladder pain which where found to be spontaneous bladder ruptures, but the hospital would not investigate the issue until 2003 when the Emergency Department head requested a simple CT Scan were they found a 10mm hole in my bladder and I was then transferred to the Gold Coast Hospital as there was no Urologist on call to perform the Emergency Surgery that was needed.

I have had numerous visits over the year's and to this day to the Lismore Base Hospital due to my bladder condition and I find that there is still NO Urologist's on call after normal business hour's therefore I find it very difficult to be treated for my condition.

Why is it that I'm unable to get proper medical treatment in my area when there's a hospital here? This is the issue that my wife and I have had since 1995 and we would not be alone with lack of medical services.

More need's to be done to rectify these issue's and to bring thing's into line with the rest of the State, to enable people to get the same medical assistance as they do Metropolitan Sydney.

On the 5th January 2021 I waited 8 hrs at the Lismore Base Hospital Emergency Department to be seen while in excruciating pain with a suspected severe bladder/prostate infection. I had to leave as I could not stay any longer, I had taken a urine sample which I gave to the Dr and I've later found it be two severe infection's. I am now needing to go back to the hospital to be treated and will need intravenous antibiotics for these infection's as I am unable to tolerate oral antibiotics, but the Hospital in the past on presenting with the same conditions has refused to administer intravenous antibiotics.

Why is the care in the Lismore Base Hospital like this? My only other alternative is to travel 1 and a half hours to Tweed Head's Hospital which is impossible when I'm in so much pain.

Thank you for your time and I do hope these issue's will be rectified in the near future.