

Submission
No 658

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

Name: Name suppressed
Date Received: 12 January 2021

Partially
Confidential

I work as a _____ at the _____ and constantly seem to be understaffed. We do not have ratios as major Sydney Hospitals do where one nurse cares for a maximum of 3 _____ children at a time, on a night shift we can care for 6 children and on a full ward even on day and evening shifts we care for 4 to 5 children and when it can take 20 minutes to get a 17 year old to take her medicine as it did tonight it makes for a very busy shift. It is becoming impossible to spend any time with new families to offer support as we are so busy doing the many tasks that can't wait, like giving chemotherapy, blood products, taking bloods and administering medications.

The ward is so busy many senior staff have left, creating a very junior workforce and excessive overtime, and absolute exhaustion from those left working there. Have spoken with managers and union with little assistance, frightened that there will be serious health outcomes if ratios in paediatrics isn't addressed. Mistakes are already happening as reported in IMMs.

We need help!