

**Submission
No 5**

**INQUIRY INTO IMPACT OF AMBULANCE RAMPING AND
ACCESS BLOCK ON THE OPERATION OF HOSPITAL
EMERGENCY DEPARTMENTS IN NEW SOUTH WALES**

Name: Ms Bridgit Akmacic

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I am writing with a heavy heart sitting in a chair in a makeshift room in the emergency department at the John Hunter Hospital

I arrived here believing to be having a miscarriage at 4pm yesterday, I along with a very full waiting room with people standing and sitting on non waiting room chairs waited to be seen by a doctor. We were told by staff that there were 9-10 ambulances banked up outside as well.

I was in pain, bleeding and visibly upset knowing that I was losing my baby and waited until 3:30am (11 1/2 hrs later!) to be finally taken through to the emergency area, I was then not taken through to a bed but a arm chair in front of the nurses station

The nurses and doctors at the John Hunter are run off there feet with ambulances banked up, elderly patients sitting in beds or wheelchairs with no beds for admission into the hospital, people with broken bones, bleeding, it doesn't feel like Australia it feels like a third world country.

The system is clearly broken nurses and doctors are under too much pressure it is dangerous and someone is going to die.

I never complain like this but when a woman like myself presents having a believed miscarriage and is made to wait in a waiting room for almost 12 hours no bathroom for privacy, then when finally taken through given an armchair something needs to be done and said. This is dangerous, degrading and a clear mistreatment of women.

Thank you for your time

Bridgit Akmacic