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I can talk first hand about what I have seen from 33 years as either a Registered Nurse or Paramedic.

The public health system is NOT coping already with demand, let alone with health services being cut.

What is happening in Qld is just disgraceful - and will result in a deterioration of public health, greater levels of chronic (often preventable) conditions, and increased premature death and disability.

We are having a worsening two-class system in health - where the rich have private insurance and can afford treatment, while the rest go on public waiting lists .... and wait, wait, wait.

The only answer I can see it to increase health funding to cope with an ageing population and population growth.

Health promotion and preventative health screening are most in need of attention, to reduce further burden on the health system.

Phil Browne