



## Report on the roundtable forum on burns prevention in Australia

The House of Representatives Health Committee presented its report on the roundtable forum on burns prevention in Australia to the Speaker of the House of Representatives today.

In February 2010, the Committee convened a panel of experts, surgeons, advocates and burns survivors to discuss the prevention of burn injuries in Australia. The Committee also visited the Burns Unit at Royal Perth Hospital and met with Professor Fiona Wood.

These discussions and visits form the basis of this report, which makes a number of recommendations that the Committee hopes will strengthen Australia's injury prevention activities and help to prevent burn injuries from occurring in the first place. These are targeted at improving the following four areas of policy:

- establishing a national burn injury prevention plan;
- improving Australian information and data collection activities;
- implementing and promoting national prevention and education campaigns; and
- improving the care and support that is provided to burns survivors.

"The Committee has been surprised by the cost that burn injuries place on individuals, the Australian health system and society as a whole" says Committee Chair Steve Georganas MP (Member for Hindmarsh). "The Committee hopes that the recommendations in this report will lead to a reduction in the occurrence of burn injuries in Australia."

Copies of the report are available from the Committee Secretariat on 02 6277 4145 or from the Committee's webpage:

<http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/haa/burnsprevention/report.htm>

**For media comment**, please contact the Committee Chair, Steve Georganas, on (08) 8376 9000 (Electorate office).

**For all other information:** please contact the Inquiry Secretary by phone on (02) 6277 4145 or visit the Committee's inquiry website:

<http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/haa/impotence/hearings.htm>