



Skin cancer public hearings in Perth and Broome

The House of Representatives Health Committee will hold public hearings for its inquiry into skin cancer in Australia in Perth on Thursday 1 May and Broome on Friday 2 May.

The committee is investigating the awareness, prevention, early diagnosis and management of both melanoma and non-melanoma skin cancers.

“Western Australia has some of the highest skin cancer incidence rates in Australia and there is probably no community in this state that has not been affected,” Committee Chair Steve Irons MP said.

“The committee is looking forward to talking with some of Australia’s leading experts on skin cancer at its Perth hearing, as well as to hearing from groups involved in providing direct support to patients diagnosed with the disease”.

Perth is Australia’s “sunshine capital”, receiving more sunshine each year than any other capital city.

“We are also looking forward to hearing from local medical authorities in Broome on the approaches being taken to skin cancer medicine in remote Northern Australia, with its competing health priorities and limited availability of specialist services,” the Chair added.

Details of the hearings are as follows:

Thursday 1 May – 8.30am to 1.00pm
Committee Meeting Room 1, WA Legislative Assembly Committee Office
11 Harvest Terrace, West Perth

Friday 2 May – 8.00am to 10.30am
High Tides Room, Mangrove Resort Hotel, 47 Carnarvon St, Broome

The hearings will be broadcast live (audio only) at: <http://www.aph.gov.au/live>

In Perth, the committee will hear from Terry Slevin of the Cancer Council, prominent skin cancer researchers, the Lions Cancer Institute and several groups involved in support for skin cancer patients, including the 2011 WA Young Australian of the Year, Clinton Heal.

In Broome, the committee will hear from the Kimberley-Pilbara Medicare Local, the WA Country Health Service, the Broome Regional Aboriginal Medical Service and local general practitioner, Dr Zivana Nedeljkovic.

Detailed programs for the two hearings and further information on the inquiry, including the terms of reference, are available on the committee’s website: www.aph.gov.au/skincancer

For media comment please contact Jonathan Martin from the office of Mr Steve Irons MP on 0419 993 677. **For all other enquiries**, please contact the committee secretariat by phone on (02) 6277 4145 or visit the committee’s website: www.aph.gov.au/health.