



Health Committee Continues Chronic Disease Inquiry with Sydney public hearing

Approximately fifty per cent of Australians have a chronic disease, which includes diseases such as: arthritis, asthma, back-related conditions, cancer, chronic obstructive pulmonary and cardiovascular diseases, diabetes and mental health conditions, while nearly forty per cent of Australians above the age of 45 have two or more chronic diseases.

At a hearing this Friday, as part of its Inquiry into Chronic Disease Prevention and Management in Primary Health Care, the House of Representatives Health Committee will focus on several chronic conditions including: stroke, diabetes, and rheumatological conditions such as arthritis and osteoporosis.

Committee Chair Steve Irons MP stated: 'The hearing will bring together a number of primary health networks, professional medical bodies and insurers in an effort to gain a greater understanding of how chronic disease is managed from the state perspective. In addition, the Committee will continue to gain an insight into challenges faced by people living with particular chronic conditions, hearing from organisations such as the National Stroke Foundation, Diabetes Australia, and Osteoporosis Australia.'

Details of the hearing are:

Friday, 23 October – 9.00 am to 4.10 pm
Macquarie Room, NSW Parliament House
Macquarie Street, Sydney

A program and further information about the inquiry is available at: www.aph.gov.au/chronicdisease

Audio of the hearing will be broadcast live at: www.aph.gov.au/live

For media comment, please contact Jonathan Martin from the office of Mr Steve Irons MP on 0439 412 855. **Inquiry information:** please contact the committee secretariat on: (02) 6277 4145 or visit the committee's website: www.aph.gov.au/health.