



Dementia inquiry moves to Sydney

A proposal to make dementia a National Health Priority Area will be reviewed at the next public hearing of the House of Representatives Health and Ageing Committee inquiry into early diagnosis and intervention for dementia in Sydney on 22 June 2012.

The Royal Australian College of Physicians and its specialty society, the Australian and New Zealand Society for Geriatric Medicine, will appear before the committee to propose dementia be given priority focus due to its growing prevalence in the community.

Research-based pharmaceutical company Eli Lilly Australia will also appear before the committee to discuss the development of a number of 'next-generation' diagnostic tools and treatments for dementia. Eli Lilly contends that better diagnostic and treatment technologies will help to overcome the stigma associated with dementia.

Committee chair, Steve Georganas MP said dementia in Australia is predicted to treble by 2050.

"As a result, Australia must increase its capacity to diagnose and treat persons with dementia," Mr Georganas said. "The development of a response to assist Australia's ageing population, some of whom may develop dementia is an important public health consideration fully supported by the committee".

PROGRAM

10:20am	Financial Services Council (Submission 71)
11:00am	<i>Break</i>
11:20am	HACC Issues Forum (Submission 85)
12:00pm	Royal Australian College of Physicians & Australian and New Zealand Society for Geriatric Medicine (Submission 22)
12:40pm	Eli Lilly Australia (Submission 54)
1:20pm	<i>Close</i>

VENUE: Corinthian Room, SMC Conference and Function Centre
66 Goulburn Street, Sydney NSW

All are welcome to attend.

The hearing will be webcast live on: www.aph.gov.au/News_and_Events/Watch_Parliament

For media comment, please contact Ms Hannah Frank from the Office of Steve Georganas MP on 0419 849 048.

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/haa.