



Parliamentary roundtable on controlling the spread of infectious diseases

The risk of infectious diseases reaching Australian shores and how Australia can best control the spread of these diseases through screening, surveillance and other practices will be discussed at a federal parliamentary committee roundtable in Canberra this Friday.

The House of Representatives Health Committee will hold its first roundtable with public health experts for its inquiry into *Health issues across international borders* at federal parliament on 25 May.

Committee chair Steve Georganas said "The committee will hold a series of roundtables to learn about the challenges for population health in Australia which stem from its proximity to regional neighbours and increased globalisation".

"Specifically, the committee will investigate how government and non-government agencies protect our country from exposure to imported infectious diseases, and the risk of epidemic and pandemic disease outbreaks," he said.

The first roundtable discussion will include participants from research and public health institutions in Sydney, Newcastle and Canberra, as well as representatives from Commonwealth agencies who develop and administer policies relating to infectious disease monitoring and control in Australia and overseas.

PROGRAM

8.45 am	Session one: Research into infectious disease across international borders
10.30 am	<i>Break</i>
10.45 am	Session two: Commonwealth policy framework regarding infectious disease across international borders
12.30 pm	<i>Break</i>
1.00 pm	Session three: Commonwealth policy framework regarding infectious disease across international borders
3.45 pm	<i>Close</i>

VENUE: Committee Room 1R3
Parliament House, Canberra

All are welcome to attend

The hearing will be webcast live on: <http://webcast.aph.gov.au/livebroadcasting/>

For media comment, please contact Hannah Frank from the Office of Steve Georganas on (08) 8376 9000.

For all other enquiries, please contact the Committee Secretariat by phone on (02) 6277 4145 or visit the inquiry website: www.aph.gov.au/internationalhealth