



Final hearing for overseas trained doctors inquiry in Darwin

The House Standing Committee on Health and Ageing will hold its final public hearing for the overseas trained doctors (OTDs) inquiry in Darwin on Monday 30 January 2012. The Committee is inquiring into the registration processes and support available for overseas trained doctors seeking to practice in Australia, and ways to streamline these processes, while maintaining Australia's high standards of medical care.

Chair of the Committee, Mr Steve Georganas MP said "I'm delighted to be visiting the Top End to hear first hand from OTDs working in some of the most challenging clinical environments in the country about their experiences navigating registration and accreditation processes.

"OTDs make up a significant proportion of the Territory's medical workforce and work under tough conditions, travelling long distances and working with limited resources to provide rural and remote communities with much needed medical care."

"That's why we should ensure it's not unnecessarily hard for OTDs to get registered and start working to their full capacity. I'm looking forward to hearing from our witnesses about how we can reduce red tape in a way that lets good doctors who've trained overseas get on with the job they came here to do – helping all Australians live long and healthy lives".

PROGRAM

09.30am	General Practice Network NT
10:00am	Dr Vinod Daniel
10.30am	<i>Break</i>
11.45am	Aboriginal Medical Services Alliance of the Northern Territory
11:15am	Dr Salahuddin Chowdhury – <i>via teleconference</i>
12:45pm	<i>Close</i>

VENUE: Members and Guests Lounge (Level 4)
Parliament House, Mitchell Street, Darwin NT

All are welcome to attend.

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

For media comment, please contact the Chair of the Committee, Mr Steve Georganas by phone on (08) 8376 9000.

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.