



## Skin cancer inquiry heads to “Sunshine State”

The House of Representatives Health Committee will hold public hearings for its inquiry into skin cancer in Brisbane on Thursday 22 May and in Cairns on Friday 23 May.

The committee is investigating the awareness, prevention, early diagnosis and management of both melanoma and non-melanoma skin cancers. The Queensland hearings will be the latest in a series being held in towns and cities across the country.

“Skin cancer affects people from all walks of life in communities across Australia” said Committee Chair Steve Irons MP.

“Queensland has the highest per capita skin cancer rate in the world. We felt it was essential for us to hear from experts and community members in the ‘Sunshine State’ directly”.

At its public hearing in Brisbane— a global hub for skin cancer research and treatment—the committee will meet with a number of influential researchers, clinicians and individuals involved in patient support. Additionally, the committee will hear from the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners and the Skin Cancer College Australasia—two of the key organisations involved in training and support for the primary care doctors who are usually the first to diagnose and treat skin cancer patients.

“As well as the Brisbane hearing, the committee is looking forward to its hearing in Cairns, which suffers from high rates of skin cancer as a result of extreme levels of UV radiation year round and a classically Australian outdoor lifestyle”, Mr Irons said.

The Cairns public hearing will include evidence from local medical professionals involved in diagnosing and treating skin cancer at all stages, as well as experts in primary care and remote area medical education.

Details of the hearings are as follows:

**Thursday 22 May – 9.00am to 3.45pm – Brisbane**  
**Committee Room 2, Queensland Parliament House, Cnr George and Alice Streets.**

**Friday 23 May – 9.00am to 2.20pm – Cairns**  
**Cairns Regional Council Chambers, 119–145 Spence St.**

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

Detailed hearing programs and further information on the inquiry, including the terms of reference, are available on the committee’s website: [www.aph.gov.au/skincancer](http://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](http://www.aph.gov.au/health).