

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Nowra Hearing for Skin Cancer Inquiry

The House of Representatives Health Committee will hold a public hearing in Nowra, on Friday 8 August, as part of its inquiry into skin cancer in Australia.

The committee is investigating the awareness, prevention, early diagnosis and management of both melanoma and non-melanoma skin cancers. To date the Committee has held 9 public hearings across Australia and received more than 60 submissions representing a diverse range of views.

Representatives of local cancer support groups, researchers in medical science and a range of clinical practitioners are among the organisations and individuals that are scheduled to appear before the Committee for its latest hearing. The Committee will also hear from Mr Andrew Rust, who has very recently completed a 900 km walk from Sydney to Melbourne to promote melanoma awareness.

"The Committee has heard about the significance of clinical trials and the important synergies between research and clinical practice that are available to medical practitioners who are also active as researchers", Mr Irons said.

"The Committee also expects to learn a lot about the experience of people on the south coast who have survived skin cancer. The Committee is particularly interested in meeting Mr Andrew Rust, the south coast melanoma survivor and entrepreneur who has done so much to raise public awareness of melanoma".

Hearings Details

Friday, 8 August – 9.00 am to 12.45pm Gallery Room, Shoalhaven Entertainment Centre, 44 Bridge Road, Nowra

The hearing 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: <u>www.aph.gov.au/skincancer</u>

For media comment please contact Jonathan Martin from the office of Mr Steve Irons MP, Chair on 0419 993 677. **Other enquiries**, please contact the committee secretariat on (02) 6277 4145 or visit the committee's webpage: www.aph.gov.au/health.