



Jillian Skinner
Minister for Health

MEDIA RELEASE

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NSW LEADS NATION IN TIMELY, QUALITY EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT CARE

Health Minister Jillian Skinner today welcomed a report showing NSW is ranked number one in the nation for delivering timely emergency department care.

The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) *Australian Hospital Statistics: Emergency Department Care 2014-15* report shows 81 per cent of NSW emergency department patients were seen on time - that is, clinical care was commenced - within the time specified in five nationally-accepted triage categories: resuscitation (immediate), emergency (10 minutes), urgent (30 minutes), semi-urgent (60 minutes), non-urgent (120 minutes).

Victoria had the next best proportion of patients seen on time (75 per cent). The national result was 74 per cent.

NSW hospitals also recorded the lowest median wait time for patients to commence clinical care in the emergency department (15 minutes), ahead of Victoria (19 minutes). The national result was 18 minutes.

Performance indicator	Under Labor (2010-11)	Under Liberals & Nationals (2014-15)	Australia (2014-15)
Number of emergency patients	2,074,098	2,681,466	7,366,442
Median wait time	19 minutes	15 minutes	18 minutes
90th percentile waiting time	108 minutes	78 minutes	93 minutes
Proportion of patients seen on time	76%	81%	74%

Source: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (Australian Hospital Statistics: Emergency Department Care 2014-15)

Mrs Skinner said: "Demand on our emergency departments has grown dramatically in the last five years and yet patients are being seen faster than ever before. This is a testament to the skill and dedication of staff in hospitals across NSW."

The report can be found at <http://www.aihw.gov.au/hospitals>