



**The Hon Jillian Skinner MP**  
Minister for Health  
Minister for Medical Research

P13/448

Ms Ronda Miller  
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly  
Parliament House  
Macquarie Street  
SYDNEY NSW 2000



23 JUL 2013



Dear Ms Miller

*Ronda*

**Petition – Increase in Funding for Cancer Surgery at St George Hospital**

I refer to the petition tabled by Mr Anthony Roberts MP, Member for Lane Cove, on behalf of citizens requesting an increase in funding for cancer (peritonectomy) surgery at St George Hospital. I refer the Honourable member to my advice of 4 June 2013 in response to the same petition lodged by Ms Cherie Burton MP.

In addition, the St George Hospital Clinical Council, which consists of clinicians, specialists and senior staff, and the South Eastern Sydney Local Health District determine peritonectomy activity at a whole of District level by balancing the demand for the surgery with other important service demands, including available theatre time, trauma services, intensive care bed capacity, ward bed capacity, and other hospital services. The Peritonectomy Clinical Review Committee continues to determine, on a clinical basis, the most appropriate and urgent peritonectomy cases, and the Hospital has on-going dialogue with Professor David Morris to ensure that he has appropriate theatre time.

The Ministry of Health and the District are currently investigating additional capacity within the health system to undertake this complex surgery. This includes discussions with private health providers and other jurisdictions to take on some of the significant interstate and international caseload that is currently referred to St George Hospital.

I appreciate members of the community taking time to register their interest in this matter.

Yours sincerely

  
Jillian Skinner MP