

Public Health and Other Legislation (COVID-19 Management) Amendment Bill 2022

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Submitter Comments:

1. I feel that too many hospital beds are held for fear of the need for Covid patients further lengthening the time people wait for a hospital bed including those coming via bust ED departments 2. Having had a family member in an ED department twice recently, I know that some of their protocols prolong the stay of the patient unnecessarily. I understand the medico-legal implications of allowing patients to leave prematurely but in the two cases I was involved with, I discharged my husband against the advice of the ED staff without any further incident. If I had not had the confidence as a medical professional to do this, he would have occupied a bed in the ED for several more hours. 3. Calls to 000 could be better managed. A women recently complained on television about being left for hours having called for an ambulance for endometriosis pain. This is something that could have been dealt with by a family member or taxi taking her to her GP. Paramedics were not required for emergency treatment on the way to the destination.