

Neuroendocrine Cancer Nurse for Tasmania

Ms FINLAY question to MINISTER for HEALTH

My question is from a constituent in Bass, Rob Hammond, a true gentleman, a warrior and icon of the north-east. Unfortunately, Rob lives with neuroendocrine cancer. He has been campaigning for years for a NET (neuroendocrine tumour) nurse in Tasmania.

Rob shared with me last week with deep sadness that Australia's NET nurse, Joyce Bonello, has suddenly passed away. She was a loved NET nurse and an extraordinary person. She had an enormous heart and had unwavering care for NETs patients across Australia. With her passing, Rob and others in Tasmania now feel alone and continue to feel misunderstood. Neuroendocrine cancer is the seventh most common cancer in Australia, yet many people, including healthcare professionals, are unaware of it and misdiagnose, leading to delays of up to seven years for some patients to be diagnosed.

The question from Rob is: when will you do the right thing and implement a NET nurse for Tasmanians?