

From: [Grahame](#)
To: [transferofcare](#)
Subject: Ambulance ramping at hospitals in Tasmania.
Date: Tuesday, 26 September 2023 5:35:58 AM

Dear Rosalie,

Whilst not experiencing ramping myself, a good friend is a paramedic and has years' experience in this area.

From what he says, ramping is largely as a result of bed block, which in turn is caused by not enough staff / nurses / doctors to handle the empty beds in the hospitals. The staff in hospital Emergency are excellent, struggling to handle the situation.

Paramedics at remote stations spend hours driving patients to RHH or LGH, only to wait more hours ramped, before driving more hours back to their remote stations. This has a flow-on effect of ambulance availability problems of course, as well as less-than-ideal safety of paramedics.

The time spent waiting extends the hours of duty, resulting in overtime costs as well as poorer patient outcomes.

In short:

1. Ramping seems to be caused by bed block because of understaffing of hospitals
2. The flow-on effect is extra overtime costs for paramedics to wait, and
3. Patient outcomes are poorer as a result.

Sincerely,
Grahame Williams

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