



Invest in health

Tasmania State
Election 2010

17th March 2010

AMA CALLS FOR BETTER WAITING TIMES FOR ELECTIVE SURGERY

Tasmania continues to lag the rest of the country in waiting times for elective surgery.

The number of category 2 patients seen within the recommended time of 90 days for elective surgery has continued to decline. Only 49 per cent of category 2 patients on elective surgery waiting lists were seen within the recommended time of 90 days.

The median waiting time for elective surgery in Tasmanian hospitals is greater than the national average of 34 days. More than 13 per cent of patients wait more than 365 days for admission.

If the current downward trend continues the waiting time for category 2 elective surgery patients will be back to the unacceptable 2002/03 level of 45 per cent.

Tasmania is well below the national target of at least 90 per cent of elective surgery patients receiving their surgery within recommended times.