

Mr Russell McGOWAN

Consumer Commissioner

Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care

Russell McGowan is a bone marrow transplant survivor who has been active in the healthcare consumer movement since the early 1990s and is now retired from the workforce on health grounds. His working life had included teaching, field work, program management and policy development, mainly involving employment, education and training programs for indigenous people.

Russell lives in Canberra and participates in numerous community and consumer healthcare organisations in the Australian Capital Territory (ACT). He retired as President of the Health Care Consumers Association of the ACT after ten years in that office and was deputy chair of the ACT Health Council for some years,

At the national level, besides his role on the Safety and Quality Commission, he is a member of the Australian Government's Medical Services Advisory Committee and previously sat on the Boards of the Consumers Health Forum of Australia, the Australian Council on Healthcare Standards, the Australian General Practice Network, the Cancer Council of Australia and the National Blood Authority. He is currently focussing his energies in support of the implementation of a personally controlled electronic health record for all Australians