



Macleay Argus

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Brief: SPEEPATHAU

Speech vacancy will be filled

KEMPSEY Hospital will have a new speech pathologist within weeks.

A spokeswoman for the Mid North Coast Local Health Network said NSW Health was recruiting for the position and it was hoped a new speech pathologist would be employed "as soon as possible".

The Macleay Argus was contacted late last week by a concerned resident following news the speech pathologist position at the hospital had recently become vacant.

Speech pathologist services locally are few and far between.

Speech Pathology Australia, the national peak body for the speech pathology profession in Australia, lists just one certified speech pathologist in the Kempsey area.

Patients requiring assistance with a speech problem are often left with few alternatives - either travel away or pay privately for treatment.

Speech pathologists can assist young children overcome speech impediments and even those whose speech is affected by illness such as a stroke or a brain injury as a result of an accident.