

Dear Sir/Madame

I would like to make a submission to the Productivity Commission on caring for older Australians. I have recently finished caring for my father, who was dying of cancer. My mother was on a carers pension and I am on a PhD scholarship of \$20,000 per year. My father wanted to die at home and this request was met by myself and my sister. I work casually and to care for my father 3 days per week I had to give up paid work and use my very meagre income to put petrol in the car to attend to my father at his home. This was very costly and has incurred a large debt to me that is not covered by any government organisation.

It was a privilege to care for my father in his dying months (3) but this has placed a financial burden on myself and my children which will take years to recover from. Dying at home saves the governments both federal and state a great deal of money, The nurses etc provide small amounts of care which are truly welcomed and they were fantastic with my Dad. However there needs to a fund families can access if they are providing care to cover petrol costs incurred when attending to dying relatives.

thank you
Yvonne Parry