

mid week

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# maltatoday

Wednesday edition



PG 14

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# 75-YEAR-OLD WITH BROKEN WRIST FORCED TO WAIT THREE DAYS AT MATER DEI

Hospital loses blood samples twice, as family is forced to pay €3,800 for emergency operation at private hospital – by the same surgeon on duty at Mater Dei

**MATTHEW VELLA**

A 75-year-old woman was forced to wait for three whole days with a broken wrist at Mater Dei's casualty unit before being forced to check in to a private hospital for emergency surgery that cost her the princely sum of €3,800.

Ellen Micallef was left distressed and in pain for three days, despite doctors seeing to her and scheduling an operation that never took place, leaving her with no choice but to go to St James Hospital for emergency surgery.

Failed by the State hospital, Micallef paid for Mater Dei's inefficient service

by footing a horrific private hospital bill she should have never paid, had doctors seen to her broken wrist immediately.

On the evening of Sunday 8 June, Micallef fell down and broke her wrist. She was immediately rushed to Mater Dei's emergency department.

She waited for four hours before anyone saw to her injury while her family was told by the staff on duty that she was not the only patient who needed assistance. And yet there were only two patients in the emergency room waiting for assistance, her family told MaltaToday

Finally a nurse took some blood samples. **pg 7**



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