



Liberal Leader Yvonne Jones

Liberals want answers for breast cancer patient

Raise questions over post-surgery discharge policy

The provincial Liberals are asking questions about an apparent surgery policy at Eastern Health for breast cancer patients.

Leader Yvonne Jones says a patient who had a double mastectomy last month had to sign a consent form allowing the hospital to send her home the same day as the surgery.

"After being part of the retesting group on faulty hormone receptor testing, this

patient was told that she couldn't recover in hospital after her surgery because of a lack of beds," said Jones in a news release.

"If she refused to sign the consent form, her surgery would be cancelled until a bed opened sometime in the future.

"Even though she had drainage tubes, trauma from the procedure and no caretaker at home, she was forced to sign the consent form."

Jones now wants to know if this is normal procedure at Eastern Health or if it only applies when there are no beds for patients.

"Breast cancer patients in our province have suffered enough over the past several years due to faulty testing. The least our health-care system can do right now is treat them with dignity as they go through their surgical procedures," said Jones.