

From: [REDACTED]
To: [medicinalcannabis](#)
Subject: Public Health (Medical Cannabis Bill) Queensland - Public Submission
Date: Sunday, 10 July 2016 8:33:08 AM

To whom it may concern

I wish to add my voice to the large group of parents/patients/carers who support the legalisation of the supply and controlled prescribing of medical Cannabis in Queensland.

My 20 year old daughter has suffered with uncontrolled seizures from 8 weeks of age. The impact of this is horrendous – severe intellectual impairment as well as numerous injuries from drop seizures over the years including the loss of her front teeth, numerous admissions to A & E for injuries such as cuts/lacerations/possible fractures etc..

I have trialled/used all possible anticonvulsant medications available over the past 20 years (sometimes more than once). My daughter had a vagus nerve stimulator (VNS) inserted in 2003 and has undergone 2 rounds of brain surgery in subsequent years – all treatments have been unsuccessful. Over the years she has been subjected to these treatments and innumerable screening procedures in an attempt to identify the source of her seizures in the hope of gaining some kind of control. However because of her intellectual impairment which results in her inability to be compliant when these are being carried out – she is always distressed and often requires physical restraint in order for any of these procedures to be conducted. Due to her age, such restraint has become a contentious issue within the medical world because of restrictive practices regulations. Of course, it is a huge concern to me as well when she is being held down, screaming to have an EEG or similar, and so the options for possible treatment/seizure control are becoming less and less.

I entreat the relevant Government Body to hasten the legalisation of Medical Cannabis for people such as my daughter. As she ages, the risks to her physically from the daily drop seizures as well as the myriad of other seizures she suffers constantly are increasing. We deserve for her to be allowed access to Medical Cannabis as a possible option for relieving some of her symptoms. The possible side effects of this products **cannot** be any worse than those of previous treatments and procedures nor the suffering she has endured from her ongoing seizures themselves.

Meanwhile, my GP and I are currently submitting an application to the TGA through the SAS to access Medical Cannabis legally from overseas. This in itself is an arduous process but I am determined to explore all options for my daughter. After a 20year struggle I believe she deserves to be able to have access to a treatment that certainly has some hope of alleviating her condition. There are, of course, no guarantees, but neither have there been with any of the other drugs/treatments/procedures she has endured over the years. We are desperate.

I would be happy to discuss my daughter's situation further if it would be useful towards achieving a positive outcome from this submission.

Kindest regards

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