

Vaping - An inquiry into reducing rates of e-cigarette use in Queensland

Submission No: 45
Submitted by: Jack McWilliam
Publication: Making the submission and your name public
Attachments: No attachment

Submitter Comments:

I would like to make a submission to the inquiry regarding reducing rates of e-cigarettes use in QLD. I believe that something must be done by the government to police the exorbitant price that pharmacies charge for Nicotine Replacement Therapies such as patches, gum and mist sprays. I have worked in the AOD sector for 8 years and have lived experience. I understand if you call Quitline and get counselling, you may be entitled to free NRT. The PBS will give you a 3 month supply of NRT at a reduced rate. 3 months is nowhere near enough time if you want a successful outcome. It takes about 3 months to get over the initial psychological addiction. How can the pharmacies get away with charging \$84 for 3 NRT mist sprays?? Its outrageous. Why would anyone want to stop smoking or vaping if they have to pay that kind of money. How would someone on Centrelink afford this???? How come there has not been an inquiry about tobacco?? Is it because the government is getting a heap of money from the tax? Why isn't NRT free or at least cheap and available to community?? We will save so many tax dollars if we do make it cheap and accessible to community because we won't spend as much at the end of the line care, when people are dying in hospitals. That costs us taxpayers a fortune. Stages of change is the model used in AOD work. If someone decides they want to quit, and don't have the money for patches, and realize they have to call quit line and go to counselling, and wait for NRT, they will move quickly through the stages of change from contemplation back into pre-contemplation. cos its too much effort to go through. It needs to be cheap. Or free. To EVERYONE!!!