

Regulator of Medicinal Cannabis Bill 2014

Committee Secretary
Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee
PO BOX 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

RE: The Moderator of Medicinal Cannabis Bill 2014

Dear Committee Delegates,

The following is our own experience with the use of Medical Cannabis Oil, but know many people with similar situations that have had 100% results with such treatment....

With out going into the whole story, my wife, virtually over night in August , developed a condition that due to its unknown origin, comes under the umbrella of Corticobasal Syndrome (in layman's terms, the brain not recognising what the limbs are doing).

Apart from lack of balance, no co-ordination, slurred speech, reflux and other issues, since the onset she has experienced spasms since day one when all this neurological degeneration started.

Back then, they came and went at regular intervals, but were not painful and 'scary'. These more painful spasms started about , as well as other symptoms that eventually led to her being hospitalised , which resulted in a 3 month stay. A very scary time for us both and one I will not forget in a hurry.

Mid , after eventually came home, I started research again on her condition, and came across a local Lady who was treating her epileptic daughter with medical cannabis oil with huge success in the alleviation of her fits, with amazing results. I continued to research this particular course of action to maybe assist my wife in the management of her painful spasms, which by now had become a daily event.

In mentioning this to our GP, and my wife's specialist, they were both of 100% agreement that she would be an ideal candidate for Medical Cannabis treatment and/or trials.

Early this year, I was given a contact by a well respected Physician in the community, that may be able to assist in acquiring some Medicinal Cannabis Oil, and this contact proved fruitful.

We were able to obtain the MC oil mid January and started very slowly with my wife's trials.

Recommended dose was 5 to 10 drops, which had little effect on her initially, so contacted the supplier and was told that everyone reacts differently to dosage and it was recommended to increase her dose to 15 drops.

In 3 days, her minor night time spasms had ceased completely and she was able to enjoy a restful, uninterrupted sleep. First time since the end of .

By the , her day time spasms had ceased also, and has not experienced any of those scary and painful turns since that day. To much of a co-incidence to rule out entirely the effects of the MC oil treatment, however, through my continual research, have found this to be the result in other similar cases.

My wife has put on weight, her speech has improved, and is currently enjoying a better quality of life. We do not have any idea how it will affect her degenerative condition, if at all. A miracle needed there, however, she is now pain free and no side effects.

We do not like having to live continually looking over our shoulders due to the use of this treatment, which seriously needs to be legalised as soon as possible for the sake of everyone that is suffering in one way or other. We are not 'criminals', but we care enough about the suffering of our loved ones to sadly have to go down this route to obtain the treatment.

This is a natural growing herb that has been around for 1000's of years, and has been used successfully for 1000's years as treatments for many ailments. There has also been literally 1000's trials down all over the world to the effectiveness of Medical Cannabis Oil. It now has to be regulated for it's legal use and made readily available for this purpose.

We have to ask where is the "Duty of Care" by our Government to the people of Australia in this regard.

Politics need to be removed from this basic human rights choice, especially those politicians that use their own religious beliefs to go against any legislation. They have not been elected for that purpose, that is their own belief and not that of the people they supposedly represent???

Pharmaceutical company's need to take a step back also, as they only care about their bottom line, and basically their drugs do not work in most serious cases.

The law needs to be changed to protect those of us that need this treatment for our loved ones, we no longer want to be looking over our shoulders and be made to feel like criminals.

I am confident you will be discreet with this information, and know it could assist many Australians.

Yours sincerely

(Husband and Primary Carer)