

Mitochondrial Donation Submission.

To Committee Secretary
The Senate Community Affairs
Community Affairs Committee

Dear Senators,

Hi, I am [REDACTED] I am sending this letter in the hope, the Australian Government will legislate to make Mitochondrial Donation law. I have Mitochondrial disease. I was diagnosed in 1987, even though, myself and my family always knew there was something wrong

with me. I am fortunate that I have reached the age of 66 years young. My sister, [REDACTED], passed away in 2009 from undiagnosed Mito disease, at the age of 60 years young.

Mito, comes in the category of Rare Diseases, which makes Mito almost unheard of, so there is very little, if any, support for Mito sufferers, Mito Researchers, Mito Doctors or financial aid to help all related symptoms, etc.

There are so many symptoms, in relation to Mito disease, I cannot name them all. Over the years I have had 12 eye operations, many mini strokes, migraines, intolerance to weather conditions, being heat and cold seasons, hearing loss, talking problems because of muscle weakness, balance and walking problems,

I have many other conditions, but I best get onto the reason for this submission. Mitochondrial Donation is so very important because we have a great opportunity to eliminate this terrible, lifechanging, cruel disease. The Mito community is hoping so very much for treatments and better still, a cure. Mito researches are trying their best to discover a cure, which would solve answers to other diseases, such as Parkinson`s disease, cancers and many others.

Now that science has developed how to use Mitochondrial Donation, in a perfect world, is it not the right thing to do?

Mito disease is such a cruel disease, myself and other people are desperately hoping to have Mitochondrial disease passed into Australian law. I hope our

Government can legislate in favour of Mitochondrial disease.

I think many people would not be in favour of Mito Donation but if a referendum were held, with the population being educated about Mito disease, we could get the right answer of YES.

Parents want to have happy, healthy children, is that not every ones wish?

Please take the time to go onto the A.M.D.F. website then have a look at the Mito stories, perhaps many of those Mito sufferers are no longer alive.

In closing, please accept my sincere thanks to all Senators.

I would like to also thank Dr David Gillespie for his time and help at our meeting in his office at [REDACTED] in March this year.

Yours sincerely & thank you,