

From:
To: [Community Affairs Committee \(SEN\)](#)
Subject: Senate Inquiry - The Availability of New and Innovative Cancer Drugs in Australia
Date: Thursday, 19 February 2015 3:27:25 PM

Senators,

I have advanced prostate cancer. I am 65 years old have been on androgen deprivation therapy for a number of years, and this has now failed to control the cancer. I am now faced with going through a series of chemotherapy sessions with their inherent side effects before I can access the two drugs that may cure me and make me free from cancer, Zytiga and / or Xtandi. Oncology research in the US has indicated these drugs are most effective, and are now available as a pre-chemotherapy treatment there, but I cannot access them here until I have been subjected to expensive chemotherapy that will not cure my cancer. I am asking Senators to recommend the Australian PBS is brought into line with world's best practice oncology and make these drugs available at the discretion of the specialist oncologists.

Kind regards

Kerry

Kerry Drinkwater