

From:
To: [Community Affairs Committee \(SEN\)](#)
Subject: FW: [REDACTED]
Date: Friday, 24 February 2017 2:56:43 PM

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 24 February 2017 2:52 PM
To: SeniorClerk, Committee (SEN)
Subject: RE: [REDACTED]

Hi Cheryl,

Please forward on my behalf.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

To whom it may concern,

Good morning. I lodged a submission this morning online and have this additional information to submit regarding transvaginal mesh and the upcoming senate enquiry.

INTRODUCTION

My name is [REDACTED]. I am a 54 year old single parent and have lived in WA since 1967. I have worked at the same Government Department for the last 27 years.

I have had ongoing gynaecological problems since the age of 16.

I was under the care of the same gynaecologist from 16 years old until 2008 when the surgeon moved from WA to another state to practice in Cairns.

I have had at least 20 procedures since the age of 16 for various pelvic complications by various surgeons.

MY PERSPECTIVE

I have suffered with chronic pelvic and rectal pain, reoccurring prolapse, loss of sex life, clinical depression due to emotional trauma for numerous surgeries and

pain, chronic fatigue, nerve pain, fibromyalgia, constant sweating just to mention a few long term side effects I am still suffering from now

- Fitted with [REDACTED] in 2007 in WA
- Not provided with possibility of long term health issues or subsequent surgeries to remove mesh and anchors
- Never informed by my specialist Dr [REDACTED] or consented to another surgeon assisting in theatre during [REDACTED] surgery (Dr [REDACTED] the inventor of [REDACTED])
- Never told I would never have a sex life again after implant
- Never informed once this was implanted removal was not possible in Australia
- Never informed this polypropylene mesh was not inert or toxic to my body
- Never told the tissue anchors could migrate to various parts of my body or mesh could vanish or disintegrate
- Never informed of the emotional consequences of ongoing pain
- Never informed of possible autoimmune responses

The [REDACTED] has since been removed from sale by the TGA.

PROBLEMS THAT NEED ADDRESSING

- All transvaginal mesh should be banned in Australia until further studies and more accurate data is obtained on the long term and short term health consequences.
- Women should also be informed of other options apart from using polypropylene mesh eg: own tissue or suturing where possible.
- Women should also be pre warned of the horrendous complications that can occur and the fact once this any type of mesh is implanted the only option is removal overseas which is expensive and dangerous.
- Women who already have complication from transvaginal mesh should all be compensated regardless of state laws for date of discovery and reporting of complications.
- Transvaginal mesh patients should be made exempt from the three year time frame to pursue law suits and well deserved compensation
- Some of the complications can take years to occur and some are instant after implant.
- A specialist should be made available in each state so that women who are injured from transvaginal mesh can comfortably be treated in their own state without having to travel overseas or interstate at their own cost.
- If no surgeons are made available in Australia to do full mesh removal women should be Government funded to fly to the USA for removal and treatment.

-Support from various medical teams in each state to provide ongoing psychological and physical assistance.

My personal details are not to be made public thank you due to the possibility of pursuing a legal case in future relating to [REDACTED] and injuries sustained.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

Western Australia