

From:
To: [Community Affairs Committee \(SEN\)](#)
Subject: Senate Inquiry - The availability of new, innovative and specialist cancer drugs in Australia.
Date: Monday, 23 February 2015 4:49:42 PM

My name is Janis Kinne. I am a resident of [REDACTED] in Victoria and I have advanced prostate cancer. Advanced prostate cancer is like living with the sword of Demosthanes dangling overhead ready to fall at any time. It is very tense and very stressful for anyone afflicted and their families. Hormone resistant cancer can appear at any time for no evident reason. When it does the prognosis is not good and life expectancy starts down the slippery slope. Men with prostate cancer in United States are able to be treated successfully with Zytiga or Xtandi before chemotherapy. It is frustrating that Zytiga and Xtandi are not available in Australia on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme before chemotherapy. Instead of getting best practice treatment, I have to undergo chemotherapy with its harsh side effects before I can get access to Zytiga and Xtandi on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme.

Australia leads the world on so many health fronts in medical services and research which makes it ever so surprising that a country that prides itself on its thought leadership across health domains entangles itself in processes that stifle the introduction of innovative treatments that are proven elsewhere to extend life and the contribution of those with cancer to community, family and Australian society holistically.

I very respectfully request your review of this submission to deliver a positive outcome for the increasing numbers of us Aussie blokes who have drawn this bad card but still want to live life, share love and respect amongst our families, friends and colleagues and continue to contribute to our wonderful country.

Thankyou for listening.

Sincerely
Janis Kinne