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Inquiry into Hepatitis C in Australia Submission 3

The Committee Secretary
Standing Committee on Health
PO Box 6021
Parliament House Canberra ACT 2600

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5th December 2014

Dear Committee Secretary

Re: Parliamentary inquiry into Hepatitis C; John McCarthy and funding a treatment for Hepatitis C

I have personally known Mr John McCarthy

I know that John's Hepatitis C diagnosis, made in June 1998, has affected him very badly.

I too contracted Hepatitis C. I underwent a successful interferon treatment in the early 1990s. I was one of the lucky ones; having only a 1 in 5 chance of success with the treatment which had significant side-effects.

John has kept me up to date regarding progress in the treatment of this disease; including successful trial in the USA of new drug therapies.

I am aware that that John has written to both sides of the house regarding this matter and that his has contacted his local member David Coleman on several occasions.

I implore the government to act quickly to provide access to treatment to the 250,000 Australians affected by this terrible disease.

Yours sincerely

Phillip Cranney