

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Committee**

**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**HEALTH PORTFOLIO**

**Supplementary Budget Estimates 2016 - 2017, 21 October 2016**

**Ref No:** SQ16-000649

**OUTCOME:** 2 - Health Access and Support Services

**Topic:** Supporting People with MJD

**Type of Question:** Written Question on Notice

**Senator:** Siewert, Rachel

**Question:**

Is the Department concerned that the current arrangements for supporting people with [Machado Joseph Disease] (MJD) are adequate?

a) If not, what strategies are being pursued to improve them?

**Answer:**

The Department of Health has provided funding to the Machado Joseph Disease Foundation (MJDF) since 2012 for primary health care service delivery to people living with MJD in the Northern Territory. The current funding agreement provides \$769,968.10 (GST incl) to the MJDF from 2014-15 to 2016-17 to employ Aboriginal Health Workers, provide genetic counselling, and develop and disseminate educational resources.

This funding complements the \$1.65 million (GST incl) to the MJDF from 2014-15 to 2016-17 that the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet is providing from the Indigenous Advancement Strategy to support people living with MJD.