

## Submission to the Victorian Law Reform Commission

### MEDICINAL CANNABIS REFERENCE

<b>Number</b>	80
<b>Name</b>	Natalie Vassallo
<b>Date</b>	19 June 2015

Dear Dr Freckelton QC,

I write to you in regards to the VLRC initiative in Victoria. The Victorian initiative has national implications and either my state will follow Victoria or people from my state will go to Victoria for treatment, so I thought it would be relevant for me to share my story with you.

My name is Natalie Vassallo. I am 47 years old. I suffer from Severe COPD, PTSD, Cervical C5/6 Disc Protrusion-Chronic Neck Pain, Prolapsed Disc L5/S1, With Right L5 Impingement, Early OA Left Knee, Anxiety, Depression, Asthma, Back Pain, Fibromyalgia & Neuropathic Pain.

I am currently taking Amoxil 500mg, Atorvastatin 40mg, Atrovent UDV Adult 500mcg/ml Solution, Doxycycline 100mg, Efexor XR 75mg, Lyrica 150mg, Maxolon 10mg, Oxycontin 15mg, Prednisolone 25mg, Prednisolone 5mg, Seretide 500/50 mcg, Spiriva 18mcg, Ventolin 100mcg, Ventolin Nebules 5mg/2.5 ml Solution & Cannabis.

I have not been in a position to grow my own Cannabis, so I rely on being able to source a supply from where ever I can at the time. Which can be very stressful to me. Cannabis is more helpful to me than most of my prescription medications. I would however like to be able to source the Cannabis Oil, as from all of the literature I have read & talked about with other people that have used the oil, that it would be of the most benefit to me.

When I cannot get hold of any Cannabis my symptoms get worse. I suffer with pain in my neck, shoulders, arms, hands, lower back & knees. I suffer panic attacks that prevent me from leaving the house most of the time. It is debilitating to feel like this.

I would love to be able to access full plant medications as the single CBD that is being trialed is of no use to me. For my medical conditions only whole plant medications will help.

I would also like the opportunity to be able to grow for my own medical purpose without prosecution.

I thank you for taking my submission for this.

Regards

Natalie Vassallo