



Our Ref: 4-42894

MINISTER FOR HEALTH

ATTORNEY GENERAL: ELECTORAL AFFAIRS

FOR WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Mr Colin Neathercoat
Management Committee, ME/CFS Australia (WA)
And Director, ME/CFS Australia
Suite B, 11 Aberdare Road
NEDLANDS WA 6009

Dear Mr Neathercoat

Thank you for your letter dated 11 May 2007 concerning Myalgic Encephalomyelitis/Chronic Fatigue Syndrome and your request for support for the priority action areas:

- Distribution of the Canadian ME/CFS clinical guidelines and Treatment Protocols to all General Practitioners and Welfare Agencies in WA; and
- Establishment of a professional part-time information, support and outreach service for those affected.

The distribution of guidelines and protocols to general practitioners falls beyond the jurisdiction of WA Health, as influence of service delivery in this area is the responsibility of the Australian Department of Health and Ageing. I therefore refer you to the Federal Minister for Health and Ageing:

The Hon Tony Abbott MHR
Minister for Health and Ageing
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600
Tel: (02) 6277 7220
Fax: (02) 6273 4146
Email: Tony.Abbott.MP@aph.gov.au

WA Health is committed to ensuring that the State's public health service is well equipped to promote and protect the health of Western Australians.

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216 St George's Terrace Perth WA 6000
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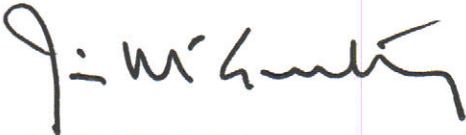
To this end the Neurosciences and the Senses Health Network is currently developing policy, strategic planning and priority actions for people with neurological conditions. This network has a multi-sectoral and multidisciplinary membership and has a vital strategic role in providing advice and direction on where and how health care should be delivered. The strategies to be implemented will be evidence based and consistent with the international literature on neurological and sensory conditions. Additional programs for the future will be developed within this context.

Please forward your concerns to the Neurosciences and Senses Health Network via:

Mr Mark Slattery
Health Networks Branch
Department of Health (WA)
PO Box 8172
Perth WA 6849

Thank you for bringing this matter to my attention.

Yours sincerely



JIM MCGINTY MLA
MINISTER FOR HEALTH

29 MAY 2007