

**Submission
No 116**

**INQUIRY INTO USE OF CANNABIS FOR MEDICAL
PURPOSES**

Name: Ms Trish Seaton

Date received: 25/02/2013

Dear ... to whom it may concern...

Although I live in New Zealand, I feel that you as a government could lead the way in this part of the world, and make the cultivation/use and possession of cannabis legal for those who are using it for medicinal purposes..

Here in NZ, they have gazetted the use of "sativex" (cannabis derivative) for use in persons who have Multiple Sclerosis. Unfortunately our pharmaceutical funding agency will not fund it.. So unless you can afford \$500 per month, you must do without.. It has also been restricted to extremely short term use (3 months)..

Anecdotally, the use of cannabis has been successful in those who use it medicinally, for spasm control, nausea suppression, weight gain and pain relief, without leaving any harm or damage to the health of the user.... Please consider the suffering that you as people can relieve by using common sense... Many people with serious medical conditions, can and have illegally used cannabis, as a last resort.. These people have been hounded and branded as "druggies", pursued relentlessly by law enforcement and thrown before the courts and often jailed, for trying to simply get a nights sleep without symptoms.

Incidence of Multiple Sclerosis and many other neurological conditions are on the rise in our part of the world..Be brave and look after the people...

Thank you.
Trish Seaton

confined to a wheelchair.

New Zealand