

**INQUIRY INTO IMPACT OF THE REGULATORY
FRAMEWORK FOR CANNABIS IN NEW SOUTH WALES**

Name: Name suppressed

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Partially
Confidential

Medical Marijuana

7 Years ago I ended top with a disc bulge in my neck C6/C7 and I required surgery to fix the problem. I had basic health care which didn't cover any of the hospital costs and going through the public system it was a minimum 6 -9 month wait. The longer the bulge compressed against my nerve the higher the chance that I would suffer nerve damage. After accessing my superannuation (which took 2 months) I finally got the operation and it made a good difference in how I felt pain wise. Fast forward to today I have permanent nerve damage that I have to take pain medication for (Palexia SL). I can't increase my medication dosage as the government have made it impossible for the doctors to prescribe opioid medications. Out of 10 my pain usually sits at a 7 out of 10 and with the palexia it's about a 6 out of 10. I have tried physiotherapy, chiropractors, hydro therapy, swimming, the gym, pilates, mindfulness, you name it ive done it and none of it helps. So I started researching cannabis and the benefits it provides people that suffer from chronic pain and I thought this can't be right, so I signed up with a medical cannabis company and I was prescribed CBD THC oil and also some dry flower. I was on a 3 week break from work when it all arrived and I started with the CBD oil and it made a huge difference, my pain level went to a 3, I could actually relax and forget about the pain that has always been there since the operation. Vaporising the flower made a difference also and having them at my disposal gave me the best 3 weeks ive had since all this started. Back to reality I purchased saliva drug tests to take and make sure I was clean so I could drive. The stupid thing is if I take the CBD oil at 6pm at night the next day at 8am the saliva based drug test comes up as positive, on top of that it was positive still the following morning. The police don't care about anything else than enforcing the law, how can I be stoned or impaired 2 days after having CBD oil. The tests are based off the Australian Standard AS/NZS 4760:2019 Saliva Drug Testing Standards and I can't imagine how many poor people have been pulled over and tested thinking they were doing the right thing only to be treated like criminals. I DO NOT agree with people driving under the influence of any substance, but the rules need to be fair like with alcohol you drink 2 beers chances your going to be either a little over or just on the limit. 2 hours later your right to drive because you are no longer impaired. If I take CBD oil at 6pm at night by the following morning I have all my faculties and I am NOT impaired. The road rules need to be reviewed and take into consideration countries like Canada where its legal and they we should be adopting their process for measuring impairment. Give us a fair go