

MEDICAL CANNABIS — PRESCRIPTIONS

871. Hon COLIN TINCKNELL to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Health:

The New South Wales government has established the NSW Cannabis Medicines Advisory Service, which offers free clinical support and advice to NSW medical practitioners and health professionals, allowing them to directly prescribe medicinal cannabis to patients responsibly and efficiently. Does the Western Australian government plan to adopt a similar system in WA in an effort to cut the red tape that bars access to medical cannabis for many people; and, if not, why not?

Hon ALANNA CLOHESY replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question.

I am advised that the Department of Health already provides basic advice on medicinal cannabis products, including availability, sourcing, doses and other associated matters, to health practitioners, as requested. Assistance is also available on regulatory and other related matters. The Western Australian Department of Health has no current plans to establish a clinical advisory service for the prescribing of medicinal cannabis. However, the minister will ask the Department of Health to review any additional services offered in NSW for consideration of adoption in Western Australia.