

CANNABIS — PREMENSTRUAL SYNDROME TREATMENT

318. Hon Dr BRIAN WALKER to the minister representing the Treasurer:

I refer the Treasurer to the Global Period Poverty Forum, held in Brisbane late last year, as well as to recent research undertaken in the UK, suggesting that as many as 79 per cent of women miss between one and seven days of work a month due to the debilitating symptoms of premenstrual syndrome.

- (1) How many days does Treasury believe are lost to PMS here in our Western Australian system a year; and what is the estimated cost to our economy in dollar terms?
- (2) Is the Treasurer aware of research that shows that cannabis can be an effective treatment for many of the symptoms of PMS?
- (3) Will the Treasurer commit to putting just a fraction of the annual cost to our economy into a scheme to encourage local research into the potential for cannabis treatments to ameliorate the symptoms of PMS and its associated pain?

Hon SUE ELLERY replied:

Straight bat! On behalf of the minister representing the Treasurer, I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question.

- (1)–(3) A person's general practitioner and/or medical specialist are best placed to select the most appropriate treatment for premenstrual pain and the symptoms of premenstrual syndrome.