

MEDICAL CANNABIS

1340. Hon Dr BRIAN WALKER to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Health:

I refer to the answer the minister was good enough to provide to my question around cannabis training for doctors, asked and answered on 14 March, as well as to a paper published in September of this year by Canadian researchers, setting out one practical pathway to creating a cannabis knowledge assessment tool for use by healthcare professionals.

- (1) What progress has the government made with regard to cannabis training for doctors over the past six months?
- (2) Will the minister consider this new Canadian research and its possible application in Western Australia, rather than trying to reinvent the wheel; and, if not, why not?

Hon SUE ELLERY replied

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

- (1) The Department of Health does not provide any specific clinical training for medical practitioners on the prescribing of cannabis-based medicines.
- (2) The cannabis knowledge assessment tool cited is not a tool for use by health professionals. It was developed with input from health professionals, policymakers, academics and students to assess the knowledge of cannabis in the context of cannabis legalisation in children of high school age. The regulatory framework in Canada is different from Australia, making it difficult to determine the application of this tool in the Australian context.