

MEDICAL CANNABIS — ORAL HEALTH

1013. Hon Dr BRIAN WALKER to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Health:

I refer the minister to recent research undertaken in the United States that shows that 90 per cent of dental students felt they would benefit from more education around cannabis and its potential impacts on oral health.

- (1) What training, if any, is offered to dental students and, indeed, practising dentists here in Western Australia in regard to cannabis use and oral health?
- (2) Will the WA government include additional dental training within the scope of its feasibility study into the establishment of a medicinal cannabis advisory service, as supported in principle in the government's response to the recommendations of the recent Select Committee into Cannabis and Hemp; and if not, why not?

Hon SUE ELLERY replied:

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

- (1) Cannabis use and its impact on oral health is included within the Doctor of Clinical Dentistry training at the University of Western Australia. Training courses on pain management and medicinal cannabis are available to dental practitioners.
- (2) The scope of feasibility studies into the establishment of a medicinal cannabis advisory service could include any registered health practitioner who may have reason to access such a service for the prescribing, administration or supply of a medicinal cannabis product.