



## APPROACHES TO MPS and SENATORS

### Letter to Politicians from Community

Dear Local Member

As I am sure you are aware the cystic fibrosis (CF) community relies on cutting edge drugs and treatments. Now Trikafta, a real 'game changer' drug, is currently being evaluated by the Therapeutic Goods Authority (TGA) before it faces the scrutiny of the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee (PBAC).

Trikafta will add decades to the lives of people with CF and a positive recommendation from the PBAC will see all people with CF over the age of 12 years with at least one copy of the F508del gene mutation live longer less traumatic lives.

In fact, more than 2,500 people with CF will be affected by this PBAC decision plus of course their partners, parents, siblings and children. For any rational person it would be unconscionable for any of these drugs to be rejected for reimbursement by the PBAC but as we all have experienced, the sensible and most reasonable outcomes are not always delivered.

Trikafta will prevent permanent, irreversible lung damage and international clinical trials have shown it significantly reduces pulmonary exacerbations, hospitalisation and antibiotic use plus increases BMI. Trikafta is highly effective for both adults and children with CF and has a positive effect on the mental health of the family unit by reducing stress, anxiety and depression.

I am just one of a number of CF community members living in your electorate and we need your support. At this point I only ask you to let the leaders of your party know that the issue of drug access is important to you and your constituents.

If you would like to discuss the merits of this life extending drug Trikafta, I would be happy to tell you our family's CF story. Thank you in anticipation for your support. A tenet of our national anthem says it all "*With courage let us all combine to Advance Australia Fair*".

Our local community, your electorate and the entire Australian population want and need access to the best healthcare to ensure people can live a long and valuable life. Please support the broad Australian CF community, because for those with CF there is ***no greater gift than time***.

Kind Regards

Community Member Person with CF

Parent of a person with CF

Sibling of a person with CF