

23 November 2020

HOMEWORK

If you had asked me as a child of 11, I would have told you that the one good reason to become a CEO is that no one can give you homework. How wrong I was!

At Cystic Fibrosis Australia (CFA) we like to think we can take on the world. There is a lot on our plate, just like there is a lot on yours, but even in the busiest times we try to keep up to date with the cystic fibrosis (CF) literature and a steady diet of core learning. We want to know that when the tough questions come in, we can handle it, and as a result we are obliged to do our homework.

This coming March 2021 our entire community will be involved in the fight to get Trikafta through the PBAC recommendation process and to secure Compassionate Access for immediately for all those eligible over the age of 12 years.

At times like this it pays for all of us to do our homework. In my experience writing communications like these, it is always best to be brief. Long-time readers of this newsletter will know that I do not always stick to my wise maxims, least of all this one. However, I've included just a short selection of the need-to-know facts about Trikafta so that you can have them on hand when you are spreading the word on why access is important.

I apologise for assigning CF Homework, but there are lives at stake and I am sure that even my 11-year-old self would acknowledge the special circumstances.

Trikafta Facts:

1. Doubles the positive effects of existing CFTR modulators
2. Gives 90% of Australian with CF, decades of life
3. Reduces lung damage, exacerbations, hospitalisations and antibiotic use
4. Increases BMI and staves off CF Related Diabetes and CF Related Liver Disease
5. Improves the mental health of patients and the family unit by reducing stress, anxiety and depression
6. Allows people with CF to lead a fulfilling life that includes education, employment, starting a family and the development of social networks
7. Reduces the burden of the disease both physically and financially
8. Is available to patients in England, Ireland, USA, Denmark and Germany and now it is Australia's time.

For more information on the benefits of Trikafta and how to fight for this lifesaving medication, visit our resources page [HERE](#) and if you would like to provide your story complete the Case Study Form [HERE](#) and send it to nickim@cfa.org.au. We need compelling stories about the benefits of Trikafta and what access to Trikafta would do for you.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nettie Burke".

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