

THE TURNBULL COALITION TEAM

CCHQ 2016



29 June 2016

Mr Malcolm McClimont
CCSVI Australia
PO Box 10
Blackburn VIC 3130
By email: admin@ccsviaustralia.com.au

Dear Mr McClimont,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide the views of the Coalition on important issues facing your members. On behalf of the Coalition Members of Parliament and candidates I am pleased to respond to your survey.

Australia's future depends on how well we can continue to grow and shape our economy.

Only the Liberal and National Parties have an **economic plan** to do that and ensure Australia's future.

We have a clear plan to transition the economy from the mining and investment boom to a stronger and more diverse economy.

The key elements of our national economic plan for jobs and growth are:

- An Innovation and Science programme bringing Australian ideas to market. This means greater investment and more jobs and opportunities for our young people;
- A New Defence Industry plan that will secure an advanced defence manufacturing industry in Australia. This will create thousands of new hi-tech, higher paying jobs;

- Export Trade Deals that will generate more than 19,000 new export opportunities. These will create many more jobs for our urban and regional families;
- New Tax Incentives, which will include tax cuts for more small businesses. More than two million businesses can benefit, to deliver more growth and jobs; and
- A Strong New Economy with more than 200,000 jobs expected to be created.

Our national economic plan and management is already paying dividends. Last year our economy continued to grow creating almost 300,000 new jobs, many of them in small business.

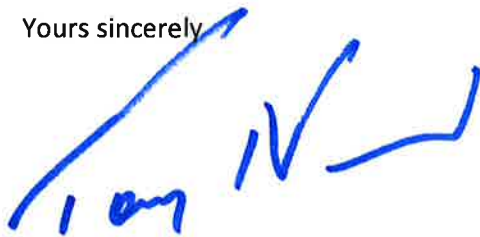
We cannot put economic growth and the jobs that come with it at risk with a return to Labor and their debt and deficits, high taxing, big spending ideas.

Only a Liberal and National Party Government can protect Australia's future.

Once announced, our policies will be available at www.liberal.org.au and www.nationals.org.au.

Thank you for communicating the Coalition's commitments to your members.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Tony Nutt', with a large, sweeping flourish extending upwards and to the right.

Tony Nutt
National Campaign Director

COALITION RESPONSE to CCSVI AUSTRALIA

The Coalition acknowledges the importance of cardiovascular risk factors in multiple sclerosis (MS). The Coalition maintains a Medicare schedule which supports patients to access essential medical services, including angioplasty.

Medicare benefits are claimable for clinically relevant services. A clinically relevant service is one which is generally accepted by the relevant profession as necessary for the appropriate treatment of the patient.

The Coalition is committed to supporting Australians with MS through access to medicines and research into new treatments. We believe Australian patients should have timely access to innovative new treatments that have been independently assessed as safe, effective and cost-effective.

The Coalition has restored the independence of the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee (PBAC) and proceeded to list new medicines at a more rapid rate than the previous Labor Government.

In 2014-15 the total expenditure for medicines to treat or alleviate MS was over \$305 million.

The Coalition listed the breakthrough medicine for the treatment of MS, Lemtrada (Alemtuzumab), on 1 April 2015 at a cost of nearly \$4 million.

The Coalition will continue to list medicines at a faster rate than the former Labor Government, where approval where approval has been received from the PBAC. Later in 2016, the PBAC is expected to consider a new medicine for the treatment of MS, Zinbryta (Daclizumab).

Since 2000, the National Health and Research Medical Council (NHMRC) has provided over \$77 million for research related to MS. This includes \$9 million provided for MS research projects in 2015.

The Medical Research Future Fund will inject \$400 million over the next few years rising to \$1 billion once fully established. It provides the opportunity to strategically fund research and address national priorities in a more cohesive and coordinated way than previous approaches. It will complement existing health and medical research funding to improve health outcomes by distributing new funding in more diverse ways to support stronger partnerships between researchers, health care professionals, governments and the community.

The eminent members of the Australian Medical Research Advisory Board, appointed in April 2016, will set out the strategies and priorities to inform decisions made by a re-elected Turnbull Government.

In developing these priorities, the Board will consider:

- the burden of disease on the Australian community;
- how to maximise the practical benefits from medical research to as many Australians as possible; and
- how to ensure that funding under the MRFF complements and enhances other financial assistance provided for medical research.