



28 September 2022

The Hon Mark Butler MP
Minister for Health and Aged Care
By email: minister.butler@health.gov.au

Access to Trikafta for young people with Cystic Fibrosis

Dear Minister Butler,

We are writing to request the inclusion of the modulator drug Trikafta on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) for children aged 6 to 11 years old.

While the recent PBS listing of Trikafta was a welcome development, the exclusion of children under 12 means that right now hundreds of children are prevented from accessing CFTR modulator therapies that could have significant impacts on their health. For example, Michael recently met with two parents, Erica and James, whose six year old daughter Chloe is one of the 220 children with no access to modulator drugs. Chloe's lungs are already severely compromised, and the longer she waits for access to these therapies, the worse health outcomes she is likely to experience.

We also urge you to extend free continuous glucose monitoring to all people with Cystic Fibrosis Related Diabetes (CFRD). Currently this is only available for people with type 1 diabetes, despite the fact that people with Cystic Fibrosis may also be insulin deficient due to scarring of the pancreas caused by thick sticky mucus. People with CFRD may also be insulin resistant, which means they may not respond to insulin in the right way.

We understand advocates like Cystic Fibrosis and Diabetes Australia are advocating for this access to be included in the next Federal Budget, and we join those calls.

Please do not hesitate to contact Elizabeth Watson Brown's office if you would like to discuss this matter in more detail.

Kind regards,

Elizabeth Watson-Brown
Federal MP for Ryan

Michael Berkman
State MP for Maiwar