

"Fitzgerald, Jim (Health)"

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To "mcs@nicnas.gov.au" <mcs@nicnas.gov.au>

cc "Simon, David (Health)", "Buckett, Kevin (Health)"

bcc

Subject Comments on draft report [No Protective Marking]

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Dear Dr Satya,

Thank you for the opportunity of being able to comment on the NICNAS/OCSEH draft report, **Multiple Chemical Sensitivity: identifying key research needs.**

This is an excellent report, and has focussed a wide literature scan onto a number of key laboratory and clinical research needs. It is a complex area of medicine, and the report reflects our own synopsis in that MCS appears to be the result of interplay between physiological and psychological influences.

It is hoped that this report will be actively distributed to appropriate psychology/biochemistry/medicine research teams around the country, in order to stimulate interest in pursuing the outlined research. It is hoped also that the report will galvanise the NHMRC to provide research funding for this area.

A couple of comments on the report itself:-

1. It would be useful to have a glossary of abbreviations.
2. p36 Section 3.1.8 Psychological factors - the section is missing reference to Staudenmayer's exposure trials and work reporting the benefit of treating MCS patients with antidepressants.

Kind regards,

Jim Fitzgerald

Dr Jim Fitzgerald

Principal Toxicologist & Manager
Public Health Toxicology
Scientific Services - Public Health
Department of Health

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