

Response ID ANON-MGJS-W32Q-X

Submitted to MSAC Consultation Survey - Application 1754

Submitted on 2025-02-14 10:25:16

Privacy and Consent

Consent

I have read the above text on how the department will handle personal information included in my response to this MSAC consultation survey. I consent to the department collecting, using, and disclosing my personal information, including any sensitive information, as described above.:

Yes

Contact details

1 What is your name?

Name:

Anna Kerr

2 What is your email address?

Email:

anna@feministlegal.org

3 What is your phone number?

Phone number:

0402467476

4 What is your postcode?

Postcode:

2130

5 Providing Input

I am providing input on behalf of a consumer group or organisation. Consumer organisations are not-for-profit organisations representing the interests of healthcare consumers, their families and carers.

6 If you are providing input on behalf of a group or organisation, what is the name of the group or organisation and what is your role with the organisation?

Name:

Feminist Legal Clinic Inc.

Questions for Consumer Organisations

1 What is the organisation's experience with the proposed health service or technology, or with the related health condition?

Write your answer below.:

We are a small volunteer operated community legal service. We have provided preliminary advice, support and referral to the following:

- i) young women who have contacted our service having suffered harm as a result of medical interventions that purported to be 'gender affirming'.
- ii) parents of young people who have suffered harm as a result of medical interventions that purported to be 'gender affirming'.

2 How does the health condition that the proposed health service or technology relates to affect individuals, families, and carers?

Write your answer below.:

From our experience supporting the many clients who have contacted us, hormonal and surgical interventions undergone for the purpose of 'gender affirming' or 'changing sex' have devastating and often irreversible impacts on individuals, families and carers.

3 How is the health condition that the proposed health service or technology relates to currently managed in Australia? That is, prevented, diagnosed, treated and/or monitored?

Write your answer below.:

There is entirely inadequate regulation of an extremely experimental medical field targeted largely at children and other vulnerable young individuals (eg: those with histories of family breakdown, sexual trauma and autism are over-represented). Individuals who question their sex or so-called 'gender identity' are fast-tracked onto controversial treatments, regardless of whether their families are in favour or not. There is immense psychological manipulation being exercised by health professionals who, for example, coerce parents to consent by telling them they must choose between having a dead daughter or a live (trans) son. Meanwhile we hear from the young women that they are prescribed hormones, often after only one or very few appointments, and are similarly given the green light for surgeries without any adequate exploration of their per-existing psychological issues and histories of trauma.

4 Is the population(s) for the proposed health service or technology appropriate?

Write your answer below.:

No - the targeting of young people with unresolved mental health issues and histories of trauma is unconscionable.

5 Is the proposed approach to delivery of the health service or technology appropriate?

Write your answer below.:

No for the reasons given above.

6 What is the expected effect of the proposed health service or technology (if supported) on the lives of people with the health condition, their families, and carers?

Write your answer below.:

Sometimes individuals report immediate regret after the medical intervention, but more often there is a honeymoon period of years during which they address any lingering discontent by seeking out the next step in their 'transition'. Eventually (often after several years) there is a realisation that they have made a terrible mistake and then they struggle to reconcile with the consequences of their own actions in agreeing to the hormones/surgeries. It takes even longer for them to reach a point where they recognise that they are a victim and that their youth and vulnerability has been exploited - only then do they seek out legal advice. Unfortunately time limits on personal injury actions can pose challenges for those seeking compensation after a significant delay in time.

7 Are there disadvantages to the proposed health service or technology, if supported and implemented as proposed?

Write your answer below.:

From our experience, the disadvantages of the proposed 'health service or technology' are so severe as to bring into question its characterisation as a health service. Health professionals with integrity and the clients themselves refer to having been 'mutilated and sterilised'. We submit that the 'gender affirming' or 'sex change' industry is fundamentally fraudulent and should not receive any support from the medical establishment, which instead must urgently direct its attention at redressing the harm that this unregulated conduct by health professionals has caused.

8 Does the organisation support public funding for the health service or technology, as it is proposed to be delivered?

Do not support

Write your answer below.:

We strongly oppose any public funding for these health services or technology for the reasons given above. Public funding will now be needed to compensate the many young people who have been the victims of these fraudulent 'sex change' or 'gender affirming' medical interventions.

Next Steps

For all respondents

1 Is there anything that you have not mentioned elsewhere that you would like to tell us about?

Additional comments:

Yes, we regularly have contact with members, through our monthly WDI webinars and meetings when these issues are regularly discussed. Our organisation is a signatory of Women's Declaration International and our position on these questions is publicly known and endorsed by our management committee. As an unfunded legal service we do not currently have time to provide more expansive answers but MSAC is welcome to contact us if they require further information on any of our answers.

If you would like to upload a file for this survey, you can do so below.

File upload:

No file uploaded

2 How did you hear about this survey? Select as many boxes as apply. (Optional)

From a treating doctor or other health care provider.

Write your answer below.:

3 Do you have any suggestions on ways to improve this survey? (Optional)

Write your answer below.:

Statement of interests

Declaration of Interest Statement

No interests

Description of interests:

We derive no income from our work and our services are provided pro bono to our clients. While we provide some moral support, we do not have carriage of any medical negligence claims for 'detransitioners' who we refer to suitable personal injury firms with the necessary expertise and resources to conduct these cases.