

**From:** Inquiry into the Drugs, Poisons and Controlled Substances Amendment (Pilot Medically Supervised Injecting Centre) Bill 2017 [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 12 April 2017 9:06 PM  
**To:** injectingcentrebill  
**Subject:** New Submission to Inquiry into the Drugs, Poisons and Controlled Substances Amendment (Pilot Medically Supervised Injecting Centre) Bill 2017

Inquiry Name: Inquiry into the Drugs, Poisons and Controlled Substances Amendment (Pilot Medically Supervised Injecting Centre) Bill 2017

Assoc. Professor Mike McDonough

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**SUBMISSION CONTENT:**

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I have been practising as a specialist in Addiction Medicine for nearly 30 years in Victoria and after my reading of Coroner Hawkins' findings, I wanted to formally acknowledge having obtained a similar view about the sometimes dire predicaments faced by people (like Ms A) having serious psychosocial problems together with drug addiction. There is now evidence from the Sydney Medically Supervised Injecting Room Evaluation and studies of a similar nature conducted overseas, that medically supervised injecting facilities save lives and reduce drug-related harms, especially within the local community where such facilities are located. Further, Medically Supervised Injecting Facilities provide a safe haven for some of our community's most marginalised/stigmatised people and demonstrate community compassion. Such a facility can also routinely provide access for facility users to treatment services and drug rehabilitation. I strongly support that Victoria establish a Medically Supervised Injecting Facility, ideally located within the City of Yarra, as soon as possible.

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File1:

File2:

File3: