



Hon Steven Miles MP  
Minister for Health and  
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16 OCT 2019

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Mr Neil Laurie  
Clerk of the Parliament  
Queensland Parliamentary Service  
George Street  
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Mr Laurie

I write in response to your letter regarding petition number 3111-19, tabled in Parliament on 17 September 2019, in relation to Access to Food Allergy Treatment.

I thank the petitioners for highlighting this important issue. I have received several letters directly in relation to this petition that have described the impact of food allergies on Queenslanders' lives.

Health and medical research play a crucial role in finding new and better ways to deliver care and prevent, diagnose and treat medical conditions. Clinical trials are an important part of the research process, allowing individual patients to access additional treatment options now while at the same time proving the safety and efficacy of next generation therapies.

Queensland Health is committed to building its research capacity with a dedicated \$10 million investment in the Queensland Advancing Health Research 2026 strategy ('the Strategy'), with a commitment to grow clinical trials in Queensland.

As an example, the Queensland Clinical Trials Portal is an online resource currently under development that will showcase Queensland clinical trial capacity and facilitate major pharmaceutical companies and other investigators to undertake more clinical trials in our state.

Expanding access to clinical trials regardless of geographic location is also a key focus through the development and piloting of an innovative 'teletrials' model in Queensland. This model uses telehealth technology to allow patients in rural and regional areas to participate in clinical trials close to home that would otherwise have been inaccessible or involve costly and inconvenient travel to major centres.

I expect the number of clinical trials conducted in Queensland to grow significantly in the years ahead, creating more opportunities to undertake studies addressing food allergies.

I trust this information is of assistance to the petitioners.

Yours sincerely

**STEVEN MILES MP**  
**Minister for Health**  
**Minister for Ambulance Services**