

CANNABIS USE DISORDER — RESEARCH

**1521. Hon WILSON TUCKER to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Health:**

I ask this question on behalf of Hon Dr Brian Walker, who is away on urgent parliamentary business with COVID.

I refer the minister to the breaking news that scientists at Yale University in the United States believe they have identified a gene that predisposes some individuals to cannabis use disorder.

Given that this research would potentially allow us to better inform the public of any risks associated with cannabis use, will the minister encourage her colleagues in the Department of Health to give it serious consideration going forward; and, if not, why not?

**Hon SUE ELLERY replied:**

I thank Hon Dr Brian Walker for some notice of the question and Hon Wilson Tucker for asking it on his behalf. On behalf of the house, I wish Hon Dr Brian Walker all the best. I am sure he could find a piece of research that shows that cannabis oil would assist with the symptoms of COVID!

In response to the member's question, as with other areas of emerging evidence, the Department of Health will monitor future developments based on these new data and, in turn, review their potential use in public health approaches.