

Mary Jordan

**From:** PLO  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 15 March 2016 9:40 AM  
**To:** 'MPEG Policy and Operations'  
**Subject:** RE: URGENT MB16-000375 update - due MPEG 12pm 15/03/2016 [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi s22

Cleared input from FSANZ (by our CEO):

- FSANZ has previously held discussions with the TGA about whether Souvenaid (produced by Nutricia) would be considered a food or therapeutic.
- The NSW Food Authority has subsequently advised FSANZ that it has formed the view, at this time, that the product is considered to be a food for special medical purposes.
- FSANZ is a food standard-setting agency and has no enforcement powers. It is therefore not in a position to comment on whether Souvenaid complies with the relevant requirements of the *Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code*. This is a matter for the relevant food enforcement agency.

Please get back to me if you need anything further

Regards

s22

---

**From:** MPEG Policy and Operations [mailto:MPEG.Policy.and.Operations@health.gov.au]  
**Sent:** Friday, 11 March 2016 4:21 PM  
**To:** PLO  
**Cc:** MPEG Policy and Operations  
**Subject:** FW: URGENT MB16-000375 update - due MPEG 12pm 15/03/2016 [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi s2

This is the original request from the MO. TGA advise that Suvanade isn't actually a drug but a food product. We need to be able to provide any background on the claims by the company as outlined in the email to NHMRC below.

Regards

s22

Ministerial, Parliamentary, Executive Support and Governance (MPEG) | People Capability and Communication Division  
 Australian Government Department of Health  
 T: [REDACTED] | E: [REDACTED]  
 Location: s22

PO Box 9848, Canberra ACT 2601, Australia

*The Department of Health acknowledges the traditional owners of country throughout Australia, and their continuing connection to land, sea and community. We pay our respects to them and their cultures, and to elders both past and present.*

---

**From:** MPEG Policy and Operations  
**Sent:** Friday, 11 March 2016 2:11 PM  
**To:** 'NHMRC Parliamentary'  
**Cc:** MPEG Policy and Operations  
**Subject:** URGENT MB16-000375 update - due MPEG 12pm 15/03/2016 [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Good afternoon

Minister Ley's office has advised that most of this request is covered in MB16-000375, however, they are asking that this brief be updated to cover:

"- Background on the guidelines

Information regarding the drug called Suvanade (spelling?) by Nutritia. The Guidelines say that it is not effective treatment for people with dementia. Nutritia aren't happy about that and are pointing to just released European research that makes a different point. "

Please update the brief as required and provide recleared version to MPEG by 12.00pm Tuesday 15 March 2016.

Regards

s22

Ministerial, Parliamentary, Executive Support and Governance (MPEG) | People Capability and Communication Division  
Australian Government Department of Health

T: [REDACTED]  
Location: s22

PO Box 9848, Canberra ACT 2601, Australia

*The Department of Health acknowledges the traditional owners of country throughout Australia, and their continuing connection to land, sea and community. We pay our respects to them and their cultures, and to elders both past and present.*

---

**From:** MPEG  
**Sent:** Friday, 11 March 2016 1:29 PM  
**To:** MPEG Policy and Operations  
**Subject:** FW: URGENT briefing request: Alzheimer's Australia Consumer Forum [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

URGENT briefing request for NHMRC – please inform MPEG ASAP if needs to go elsewhere

---

**From:** s22  
**Sent:** Friday, 11 March 2016 12:56 PM  
**To:** MPEG  
**Cc:** Minister Ley DLO  
**Subject:** URGENT briefing request: Alzheimer's Australia Consumer Forum [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

### EVENT BRIEF REQUEST FORM

MINISTER Ley  
EVENT BRIEF: Alzheimer's Australia Consumer Forum

DUE IN MO: 3pm, Tuesday 15 March  
ADVISER: s22

Event Date: 16 March 2016  
Start Time: 3:30pm

Description: Minister is attending the forum to launch dementia clinical guidelines funded by the NRHMC:

*The guidelines were developed within the \$25 Million NHMRC Partnership Centre: Dealing with Cognitive and Related Functional Decline in Older People (CDPC) and forms part of the Federal Government's Boosting Dementia Research Initiative. The CDPC has developed the Clinical*

Will this event be held in the Parliament House office? Yes

Person/organisation hosting event: Alzheimers Australia Consumer Forum

Organisation contact person:

Names of expected attendees:

Purpose of event: As above

Other issues:

General background to include:

- organisation history
- Funding provided to organisation (inclusive of whether organisation has recently sought funding)
- Current / contentious issues
- Any other information that may be of relevance
- Background on the guidelines

Information regarding the drug called Suvanade (spelling?) by Nutiritia. The Guidelines say that it is not effective treatment for people with dementia. Nutiritia aren't happy about that and are pointing to just released European research that makes a different point.

*The Department may contact the organisation directly unless other instructed not do so.*

## **HEALTH COMMS INPUT**

SPEECH

SPEAKING LENGTH 10 – 15 minutes

SPEAKING NOTES

KEY MESSAGE -

Will the Minister be represented? No

Has the Department already been contacted by the MO? No

§22

Office of the Hon Sussan Ley MP

Minister for Health

Minister for Aged Care

Minister for Sport

Parliament House Suite M1-41 CANBERRA ACT 2600

T: §22

---

"Important: This transmission is intended only for the use of the addressee and may contain confidential or legally privileged information. If you are not the intended recipient, you are notified that any use or dissemination of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you receive this transmission in error please notify the author immediately and delete all copies of this transmission."