



The Hon Emma McBride MP
Assistant Minister for Mental Health and Suicide Prevention
Assistant Minister for Rural and Regional Health
Member for Dobell

Ref No: MC22-023247

Dr Monique Ryan MP
Member for Kooyong
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Dear Dr Ryan

Thank you for your correspondence and advocacy on behalf of your constituent regarding support for evidence-based services for people impacted by Borderline Personality Disorder (BPD).

The Government is working to ensure that Australians living with mental ill-health, including those with BPD, receive the care they need. The Productivity Commission, National Suicide Prevention Adviser and Select Committee on Mental Health and Suicide Prevention identified gaps in the mental health and suicide prevention system and recommended system wide reform. The Government recognises these findings and is determined to improve Australians' mental health, including those living with BPD.

The Clinical Practice Guidelines (Guidelines) for the Management of BPD were developed by the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) under a memorandum of understanding with the Department of Health and Aged Care. The Guidelines were approved and published in February 2013. Approval was granted for five years, after which time the evidence was deemed to be out of date and subsequently, the Guidelines rescinded. This is standard practice for all clinical practice guidelines developed by NHMRC, and for those developed by third parties and approved by NHMRC. The NHMRC now directs clinicians to guidelines published in the United Kingdom, which were updated in 2018.

Thank you for sharing the National Consensus Statement: By, With and for People Impacted by BPD (Statement). It is a testament to the commitment of those advocating for Australians living with BPD, and on their behalf I have requested a meeting with Professor Anne Kelso AO, Chief Executive Officer of the NHMRC, seeking an urgent update on the status of these and other related guidelines.

The Government is working with states and territories and those with lived experience through the National Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Agreement to address areas of immediate reform. This includes improving service integration, growing the workforce and prioritising investment in prevention and early intervention measures.

Thank you for writing on this matter.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Emma McBride'.

Emma McBride

3 February 2023