



Submission to the Inquiry into the Mitochondrial Donation Law Reform (Maeve's Law) Bill 2021

15 July 2021

The Childhood Dementia Initiative welcomes the Mitochondrial Donation Law Reform (Maeve's Law) Bill. It will give at-risk women the much-needed opportunity to reduce their chances of having a child with mitochondrial disease. Mitochondrial disease is one of the most common causes of childhood dementia.

The staged approach is science based, cautious and provides for a well-regulated framework that considers all ethical aspects. Both the clinical trial proposed, and licensing requirements are reasonable. We trust that such licenses will be swiftly and appropriately provided utilising the advice of mitochondrial disease clinical experts.

Families affected by mitochondrial disease have endured generations of devastating ill health with children often suffering dementia, poor quality of life and tragically dying young. Mitochondrial donation will give affected families hope that the chain of inheritance of mitochondrial disease may be broken.

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