MONASH University



25/5/2020

Loes Slattery Senior Research Officer

PFAS Sub-committee Joint Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade R1.120 Parliament House Canberra ACT 2600

NHMRC-funded Study of Health Effects of PFAS Exposure among Firefighters

Dear Ms Slattery,

Thank you for your invitation to make a submission to this committee.

The specific aims of our study are to identify among firefighters whether:

- the risk of developing cancers, in particular bladder, renal and testicular cancer is associated with PFAS exposure from firefighter foams;
- the risk of death from major disease subgroups, such as liver, kidney and cardiovascular conditions is associated with PFAS exposure from firefighter foams; and
- whether there are exposure-response relationships for any identified increased risks.

The hypotheses are that work with PFAS firefighting foams are associated with increased risks of cancer and/or mortality, in particular from kidney and testicular cancer and kidney disease.

The study is expected to take 3 years but it is at an early stage, so we do not have any findings as yet.

Kind regards



Associate Professor Deborah Glass Monash Centre for Occupational and Environmental Health (MonCOEH) School of Public Health & Preventive Medicine, Monash University 553 St Kilda Road Melbourne, VIC 3004, Australia Telephone +61 3 9903 0554;