

**TO THE HONOURABLE THE SPEAKER AND MEMBERS OF
THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

This petition of certain citizens of Australia draws to the attention of the House the plight of those citizens who suffer primary or secondary lymphoedema, a serious chronic medical condition for which there is no cure.

If untreated, lymphoedema frequently leads to cellulitis, a condition which is costly and difficult to manage, and which often results in lengthy hospital stays.

We ask the House to recognise lymphoedema as a serious chronic medical condition and to include lymphoedema in the enhanced primary care programme.

We ask the House to allocate resources as a matter of urgency to establish regional and rural lymphoedema treatment centres.

We ask the House to provide funding for a public education campaign on lymphoedema, for a central register of lymphoedema treatment practitioners, and for a national lymphoedema helpline and website.

We ask that provision be made within Medicare for the cost of lymphoedema treatment, including the cost of compression garments, necessary for the successful management of lymphoedema.

We ask that the House adopt the International Lymphoedema Framework (ILF) Best Practice model (2007) when planning and implementing lymphoedema detection, treatment and management protocols.