

CONSTITUENT QUESTION

House of Assembly

ASKED BY: Janie Finlay MP

ANSWERED BY: Hon Bridget Archer MP
Minister for Health, Mental Health and
Wellbeing

QUESTION:

My constituent question this morning is from Terry in Youngtown. He has asked: what support is being given to people from the North to receive Jack Jumper desensitisation therapy? It requires several once-a-week trips to Hobart. When trying to gain more information with the Department of Health website he also found the page referral and clinic outpatients' page is no longer available. He's called a number of times and is keen for an update.

ANSWER:

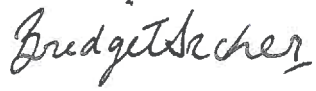
The Jack Jumper Allergy Program has been life-saving for many Tasmanians, and the Department of Health acknowledges the burden placed on families, particularly those in regional Tasmania who need to travel regularly to Hobart for treatment.

Desensitisation therapy is a highly specialised treatment that requires close monitoring, particularly during the initial phase, which is currently only available through the state-wide tertiary service located within the Royal Hobart Hospital.

Once patients are stabilised on treatment, care can be transferred closer to home, with ongoing therapy available through clinics.

The Department of Health recognises the challenges for patients living in areas other than southern Tasmania and continues to explore options to expand access to this highly specialised service. The Patient Travel Assistance Scheme (PTAS) offers eligible patients an offset for the cost of travel and accommodation for medical appointments. Your constituent may wish to contact PTAS on 6777 6249 or via email at lqh.patient.travel@ths.tas.gov.au.

I am advised that the referral and clinic information webpage for the Jack Jumper Program is now accessible.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bridget Archer". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line under the name.

Hon Bridget Archer MP
Minister for Health, Mental Health and Wellbeing

Date: 15/6/26