



Senator Catryna Bilyk

Labor Senator for Tasmania

MEDIA RELEASE

Senator Catryna Bilyk raising awareness on brain tumours as part of International Brain Tumour Awareness Week

As a survivor of brain tumours, Senator Catryna Bilyk is committed to raising awareness about healthy living and is reminding people that they should be vigilant about seeking medical attention if they have concerns about their health.

International Brain Tumour Awareness Week (IBTAW) commences this Sunday and is the perfect opportunity to educate the community on the symptoms and effects of brain tumours.

The event also doubled as the launch of the Brain Tumours, Depression and Anxiety Disorders fact sheet, developed by Brain Tumour Alliance Australia (BTAA) and Beyond Blue.

Representing the Minister for Health and Ageing, the Hon. Nicola Roxon MP, at the Australian Launch of IBTAW Senator Bilyk said

“Nationally brain tumours affect about 1,400 people diagnosed with malignant brain tumours each year with another 1,400 diagnosed with benign tumours.”

“However, brain tumours can have a significant impact on both the physical and mental health of sufferers,” continued Senator Bilyk.

Brain tumours can cause many symptoms including headaches, dizziness, speech

impairment, memory problems and personality changes.

“The cause of most primary brain tumours is unknown while secondary brain tumours occur when cancer spreads from other parts of the body,” said Senator Bilyk.

“Early detection is vital so that treatment can begin and the patient has the best possible chance of making a full recovery. That it is why it is important that we all pay attention to our health and seek medical attention if concerned,” said Senator Bilyk.

More information on brain tumours can be obtained from the following organisations:

Brain Tumour Alliance Australia
www.btaa.org.au; or by phoning 1800 857 221

The Cancer Council
www.cancer.org.au; or 13 11 20

The International Brain Tumour Alliance
www.theibta.org.au

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