



**mcua**

Medical Cannabis Users Association of Australia

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## The Hidden Cost of Prohibition

**The Medical Cannabis Users Assoc. of Australia Inc (MCUA) is being inundated daily by members with the questions: Where can I get cannabis oil to treat my (condition); and by others who are expressing concerns about the affordability of access to future legal cannabis products.**

“I feel that people like myself who are on disability support pensions will not be able to afford access once it is legalised,” said one member. “ I fear it will be market priced to return the profits and massive financial outlay that these big companies will expect to satisfy themselves and shareholders?.... ”

His fear is real. After having read an article written by a lady who has been compassionately supplied with oil for her epileptic daughter for 2yrs and estimated, that based on US prices, it would cost her \$2300 a month to purchase the oil necessary to treat her child legally.

This would put it totally out of reach for those who need it most. Sick and dying who are reliant on welfare payments because they are unable to work to earn a decent wage.

The MCUA understands that as unregistered products - like we are using out here now - they will not attract a PBS subsidy until thoroughly tested by the expensive and time consuming processes in place that enable registration.

Ultimately, this has the potential to force a large majority of people to continue to seek sources through the black market.

Comparable prices via the black market, based on 1 oz of cannabis plant material per week would be around \$1200 per month.

This could potentially affect the billions in profits being forecast by these giant companies and fill the deep pockets of organised crime rings.

The MCUA is seeking answers about access and affordability from politicians and their big-business partners, as our members seek answers from the association. It is the patients concerns that have been sorely neglected throughout this whole back slapping journey down the yellow brick road and ultimately, they who will be the end user making decisions and choices as to which fork they will take on this road to nowhere.