



Martin Foley MP

Minister for Health  
Minister for Ambulance Services  
Minister for Equality

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BAC-CO-12456

Coroner Darren Bracken  
Coroners Court of Victoria  
65 Kavanagh Street  
SOUTHBANK VIC 3006  
[cpuresponses@coronerscourt.vic.gov.au](mailto:cpuresponses@coronerscourt.vic.gov.au)

Dear Coroner Bracken

Thank you for your letter regarding your findings on the death of Diane Hillgrove and your recommendation to the Department of Health to consider the inclusion of pregabalin in SafeScript (Coroners reference: COR 2018 003264).

I am sorry to learn the circumstances of Diane's death and offer my sympathy to her family and friends. Diane's death highlights the harms that prescription medicines can cause and the reason the Andrews Government implemented Victoria's Real-Time Prescription Monitoring system, SafeScript.

Professor Euan Wallace, the Secretary of the Department of Health, recently received a similar recommendation from Coroner Paresa Spanos (COR 2019 002434) to include pregabalin in SafeScript and has provided the Department response to Coroner Spanos. I refer to Professor Wallace's response in relation to your recommendation.

Should you wish to discuss this matter further, please contact Stefan Tulloch, Acting Chief Officer, Medicines and Poisons Regulation at the Department of Health on 0431 245 803 or [Stefan.tulloch@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:Stefan.tulloch@health.vic.gov.au).

I trust this has been of assistance and thank you again for taking the time to write to me about this important matter.

Yours sincerely

**Martin Foley MP**  
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05 / 05 /2021

