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| Mesh forum  April 2019 | **REPORT**  A summary of the event and issues of mesh implants from the perspective of consumer groups. Provided to support the Ministerial Roundtable on Mesh to be held December 2019  Health Consumers Council (WA) Inc. and WA Pelvic Mesh Support Group  Edited from a report created by the Health Consumers groups across Australia |

# **REPORT ON NATIONAL MESH INJURY FORUM – 5th April 2019**

In conjunction with other state peak health bodies, the Health Consumers Council of WA collaborated to host the National Forum on Mesh Injury in Melbourne on 5th April. This report summarises some of the key outcomes of the Forum, and includes pertinent West Australian updates from the intervening period since the forum was convened.

## **KEY OUTCOMES OF THE FORUM**

* 188 registrants (including 53 on-line participants).
* Participation of most key stakeholders relevant to the mesh crisis were:
  + As **Keynote Speakers**: Hon Greg Hunt, Minister; Labour Opposition Spokesperson; Senator Rachel Siewert (Chair of the Mesh Implant Senate Inquiry[[1]](#footnote-1)), John Skerritt (Secretary Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA);
  + **Panellists**: Prof Anne Duggan Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (ACSQHC), Dr George Angus (Gynaecologist/Obstetrician), Tracey Duffy (TGA), Joanne McCarthy (Multi-Walkley Award winning Fairfax journalist); and
  + **Workshop** **Participants**: Representatives from the State Health Depts of Victoria, Queensland, NSW, SA, and WA.
* Announcement at the Forum by Minister Hunt of $2.3million toward the creation of a national prospective mesh register.
* Launch at the Forum by the TGA of its Action Plan for Medical Device Regulatory Reform incorporating a commitment to consumer inclusion throughout the review process.
* Launch of consumer survey results relating to hernia mesh[[2]](#footnote-2) [[3]](#footnote-3)
* Media coverage both prior to and post-Forum including Editorial Opinion Pieces, participation in a live Panel for *Life Matters* (Radio National) and comprehensive news coverage across all ABC programming.

## **BACKGROUND**

An alliance of state health consumer peak bodies convened a National Forum on Mesh Injury in Melbourne on 5th April to address a variety of treatment, policy and regulatory issues stemming from the impact of mesh implants. This built on the joint initiative of the consumer peak bodies on Submission 25 in the Mesh Implant Inquiry.[[4]](#footnote-4) There was a strong impetus among the health consumer groups to ensure the Inquiry’s Recommendations are implemented.[[5]](#footnote-5)

The Forum was co-funded by five state health departments and through registration fees.

Uniquely the Forum brought together most of the major stakeholders involved with mesh within a consumer dominated event.

## **REGISTRATIONS**

The Forum attracted 188 registrations (including on-line participants) covering academics, policy makers, clinicians, health bureaucrats and (predominantly) affected consumers and carers. Our extensive engagement with consumers through social media and surveys indicated strongly that they wanted a voice; to share their experiences and advocate for change. For all consumers, but particularly those unable to attend the Forum, we provided the opportunity to have a pre-recorded video or written statement to be shared on the day. The Health Issues Centre in Victoria who was convening the forum received 22 recorded videos and 37 written testimonials, capturing emotional yet powerful consumer experiences.

## **CONSUMER SPONSORSHIP**

Just over $18,000 of the funding received was set aside to provide financial assistance for airfares, accommodation, transport, and registration fees to consumers (and their carers) to attend the Forum. A summary of sponsored consumer numbers, by state, is as follows:

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| **State** | **Consumers Supported** |
| South Australia | 6 attendees plus 1 carer |
| New South Wales | 6 attendees plus 1 carer |
| Australian Capital Territory | 1 attendee |
| Victoria | 3 attendees |
| Queensland | 10 attendees plus 1 carer |
| Western Australia | 1 attendee plus carer plus 4 live-stream |

Unfortunately there was greater interest among West Australian consumers in attending, than there was the physical capacity to tackle the long flight.

In addition to travel, $2,000 was allocated to provide counselling services for attendees on the day who required additional support.

## **FORUM WORKSHOPS**

Three concurrent workshops were held on

1. Medical Device regulation
2. Treatment pathways
3. Community advocacy.

A brief summary of the outcomes of each workshop is provided in the report.

## **PARTICIPANT CONTRIBUTIONS AND FEEDBACK**

We utilised Slido, an audience interaction platform, to enable all attendees to contribute during the day. A total of 134 questions and comments were received; additionally, there were 650 questions and comments registered on our Facebook sites. Post-Forum Survey responses have provided overwhelming positive feedback for the opportunity to share lived experiences and to advocate for change, and 96% of survey respondents want to be involved in future efforts to achieve the outcomes identified in the Forum workshops.

As event organisers we always saw the Forum as an important but single step toward the delivery of justice and reform. We undertook a survey to gather data and insights generated on the day and to consider the next course of action. While we remain committed to the continuing work to achieve improvements, the lack of ongoing resourcing and the great disparity with what is happening at a state level has made this difficult to achieve.

## **MEDICAL DEVICE REGULATION WORKSHOP**

**Hosted by Danny Vadasz, Health Issues Centre Victoria (videotaped)**

Objective: Who is responsible for regulating and enforcing consumer safety? Device regulation. registration, informed consent, adverse event reporting, credentialing, complaints processing, product safety and withdrawal and regulation of device manufacturers.

The workshop identified a number of systemic failures in the regulatory and quality and safety mechanisms governing the approval, use and monitoring of medical devices in Australia. These failures cross organisational and jurisdictional boundaries and provide a context for the likely future failures of other devices.

The workshop highlighted the absence of an overarching authority to ensure inter-jurisdictional cooperation between responsible authorities within the chain of quality and excellence and called for the government to create that oversight through legislation.

The failure of medical devices (including but not limited to mesh implants) is a whole of system problem involving Medical Device manufacturers and sponsors, the TGA, ACSQHC, state and commonwealth Health Departments, health services, Colleges, complaints authorities and medical professionals.

A total review of system failure is needed to identify the specific reforms needed to guarantee consumer safety.

The workshop indicated its interest in engaging with the TGA though its Action Plan for Medical Device Regulatory Reform as a first step in the review process.

## **TREATMENT PATHWAYS WORKSHOP**

**Hosted by Ms Melissa Fox, Health Consumers Queensland**

**Objective:** Producing a Scorecard for comparing state responses (service quality) and best practice guidelines around consumer led design solutions.

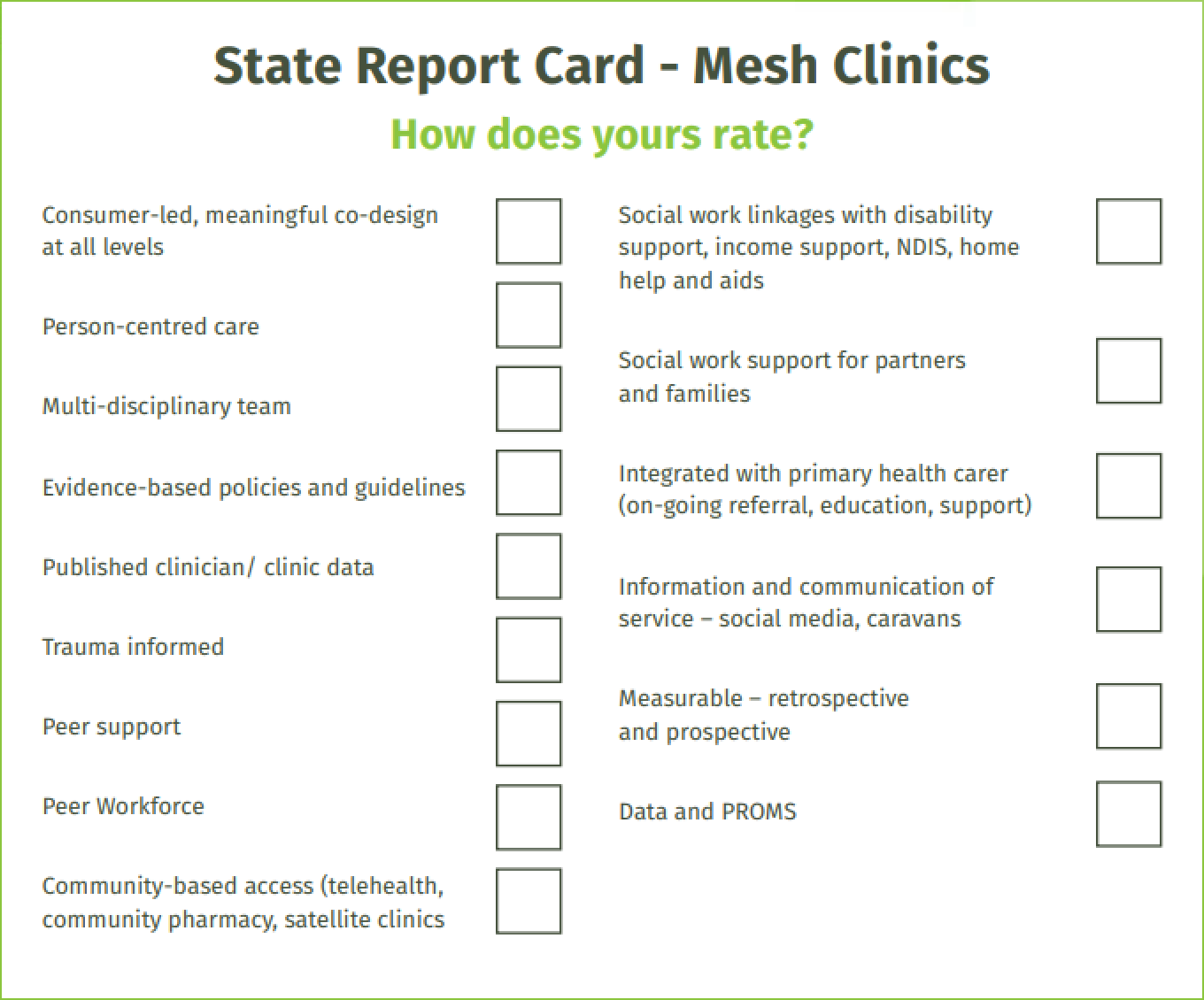
Since the release of the recommendations of the Senate inquiry, the responses of state and territory health departments to the needs of consumers has been inconsistent. There are varying levels of consumer involvement, funding for new services, clinical skill and inconsistences in experiences of care.

The aim of the workshop was to develop and complete a scorecard to track performance of state and territory health departments in delivering quality care to mesh affected people.

The workshop opened with a video and audio presentation from the new multidisciplinary state-wide [Queensland Pelvic Mesh Service (QPMS)](https://www.health.qld.gov.au/clinical-practice/referrals/statewide-specialist-services/queensland-pelvic-mesh-service/queensland-pelvic-mesh-service) and Queensland Health’s Patient Safety and Quality Improvement Service (PSQIS), showcasing their co-design process with mesh-affected women. Consumers had been integral to the design and implementation of this service.

Participants identified the criteria for a scorecard template to reflect what is important to consumers from the services and support they receive, and populated the scorecards for each state (based on state representation of consumers and clinicians at the Forum).

It is recommended that state peak consumer groups and health departments continue to work with consumers to more accurately complete the scorecards, pool information to gain an accurate national snapshot and identify where learnings can be shared to improve care.



Adapted for HCC WA’s *Health Matters[[6]](#footnote-6)*, April 2019 magazine from the material developed for this workshop.

## **COMMUNITY ADVOCACY WORKSHOP**

**Hosted by Ms Pip Brennan, Health Consumers Council (WA) Inc and Serena Joyner, Health Consumers NSW, Dr Gavi Ansara**

Objective: A workshop to foster collaboration and to create a collaborative community response to the mesh crisis and the needs of mesh impacted consumers

When undertaking preparation for this event, HCC in WA undertook research and discovered 14 consumer facebook groups and pages. As is often the case in this area of human endeavour, there are different opinions on what needs to be done to address the issue, and a significant amount of consumer discord and disunity was apparent. The Community Workshop aimed to address this, however on the day there were key people not present, and in a couple of hours there is only so much that can be achieved. It was however an important initiative to begin a more connected conversation on what needs to happen to support consumers.

The Community Workshop commenced with an introductory presentation on medical trauma and its impacts by Dr Gavi Ansara. This created a safe space important for people to effectively communicate and develop a shared sense of community. Attendees were invited to contribute to building a vision for a new patient experience. Feedback articulated a vision of a health system where:

* Informed consent is the norm
* There is an equal relationship with trust restored between clinicians and consumers
* A model of care that has been co-designed, including mesh removal that is available, accessible and funded
* The right support – both mental health and financial assistance

Workshop participants resolved to be a united front, to continue to drive impetus on this issue and ensure consumers are at the heart of service planning, delivery and evaluation.

## **Evaluation from participants**

The anecdotal impression from the health consumer organisations from the day was that participants expressed a broad range of sentiments after the event ranging from continued despair and frustration to a sense that meaningful outcomes had been achieved and warranted renewed hope.

A survey was sent out to attendees after the workshop, with 50 responses.

**What were the highlights of the forum for you?**

* Danny Vadasz , Joanne McCarthy and Dr Angus speeches.
* Meeting many women that I’d spoken to online in person. Hearing their stories. General information
* There were a lot of highlights. Mesh injured people coming together, and uniting to help ourselves. The fact that so many people came and showed that we are a large group and we should be heard and helped. Hopefully this will make government see that they MUST do something and we will not be ignored. And this should lead into the fact that they ignore this issue at their peril, and leave themselves open to litigation and compensation claims from victims now and into the future. Having a chance to prepare the scorecard because, as consumers, we were able to make sure that issues that are important to us were included. Reconnecting with Victorian ladies that I have worked with before, and meeting new people. Being able to talk directly to people who are suffering and provide them with face to face support and encouragement. Being supported by my fellow mesh sisters and brothers. The unapologetic comments and questions from Joanne McCarthy and Dr George Angus, their support for mesh injured people, and their willingness to speak the truth when others are still pretending and trying to make a whitewash of the issue.
* Hearing that the TGA has the power to recall a product. Just shelve the toxic harmful stuff. How many lives do you want to ruin before you do? We are all suffering terribly.
* Meeting the women/men I had only known online, talking sharing experiences & strategy. The response from Senator Siewart. The Workshop
* The question and answer time.
* Nil
* Common ground with other experiences
* There is actually people who care and are working towards helping the mesh injured. Meeting other mesh injured people.
* Meeting other Mesh injured in person....meeting our wonderful Health Consumer people, listening to the panel discussions
* The women's videos
* To be determined
* There was an attempt to present evidence-based work which is the starting point for me and I do think there was a bias in presenters or people who spoke up. I spoke to some people at lunchtime who had success with the sling.
* Range of discussions, opinions and stories helped to put things in perspective
* The opportunity to hear again from those affected by mesh, and get an update on what had occurred across the country in regard to this important issue.
* Hearing Joanne McCarthy speak.
* Learning more about other people’s issues
* The food, the misfunctioning of the equipment
* Being with other injured men and women and having my experience validated.
* The amount of people trying to help
* That we pulled off a world first and got such attention our social media has grown 20% and we have had a flood of calls from mesh injured people - but no concrete services to refer them to ....
* We are being heard but not enough action takes place. How & when are the currently injured being helped?
* Meeting women I have been interacting with online for years.
* Exposure to professionals such as Danny Vadasz. He has a wealth of knowledge and is very respectful of other's opinions etc.
* The recognition/realisation that it isn't just the the TGAs fault this has happened. That health professionals (especially groups like the RACGP) and Federal/State Governments are equally if not more responsible for the situation and need to be pushed for action.
* The initial feeling that something was being done for mesh affected
* The insight and education in relation to current medical and regulatory powers and constraints of the TGA, and recognition of failures. Connecting with facilitators, professionals and mesh injured community. Forming conclusions on action plans to be modelled moving forward.
* Dr George Angus and his incredibly honest answers about the culture of the medical profession and what an uphill battle we have on our hands to change that hideous culture. TGA admission of guilt . Being in a room filled with other Mesh victims.
* The highlight was Dr. Angus. Must say the food was amazing - we were looked after well...
* Having a live stream option, although there were issues -TGA -expert panel -the workshop i attended was useful in gaining a better understanding of the consumer wants and needs
* The panel discussion, Greg Hunts announcement, Rachel Siewarts skype, the videos from victims of mesh implants & John Skerritt there prepared to answer questions
* Not sure I could call them highlights, however finally having an action plan and a registry set up to report the mesh implants is a good thing. Only wish we had it years ago. Hard to believe they didn’t have such a registry. It’s not going to help everyone before this. Maybe if we had airbags implanted they would be able to have them recalled as they have a registry. Not knowing how many women have died from mesh injuries or are injured by their mesh implants daily will never be found from the past. Mr Hunt said we are moving forward from now.
* Being informed with some different information that I heard on this day is always a good thing. Some I’ve already heard and some I’ve lived with for over 11 years. Even though so much of it took days to process. It was so overwhelming and it was very full on day especially when you’re in pain. Meeting so many courageous mesh sufferers from around Australia and knowing we were there together supporting each other and trying to get someone to listen.
* Listening to Dr George Angus was very informative, especially with his knowledge and insight to the medical field that has let all of us down. Including himself. We need more doctors like him that have our best interests at heart.
* Having Joanne McCarthy on our side with the media has been so important. Without her and her determination and never give up attitude to make things right has got us to where we are today. I’m forever grateful to her. Joanne is such an informative person and so well researched. The facilitators on the day were professional and helpful as well. I’m sure they were overwhelmed at times as I feel the day didn’t go as they’d planned it. Especially with so many things going wrong at the beginning with the electronics.
* Hearing Senator Rachel Siewert talk to the forum through Skype and it was refreshing to know she is listening to our stories and she seemed to show true emotions. Especially when she spoke about the Senate inquiry. I was one of the ladies that wrote my story to be read at that inquiry. It was very emotional reliving my experience and how my life has changed. It was a shame the set-up of her Skype came across very unprofessional at the beginning. She showed compassion and understanding of our suffering.
* The testimonials were well presented and heartfelt. Pity John Skerritt didn’t take notice or feel they were important to watch. Another highlight of the day was hearing John Skerritt say “yes” when asked from a mesh injured sufferer about going on 60 Minutes for and interview. Look forward to that! Have a complete segment on Mesh awareness and the injuries from their implants around Australia and the world and how we all feel let down by the TGA and the government.
* Meeting relevant people
* It highlighted that we do have health professionals who "get" our issue and understand somewhat of the impacts on our lives. We truly appreciate the opportunity to have this forum and to forge ahead. We understand it was a huge undertaking. The fact that there were TGA and ACSQHC representatives attend. Videos of mesh injured stories were useful and awesome.
* Listening to two of the panel members. Dr Angus and Jo McCarthy
* The senators report.
* Too disjointed to accurately say.
* Finding out it’s not all in my head, feeling supported and hearing from the Dr was fantastic. Being part of the regulation and policy group felt like I was actually there whilst they are trying to do something.
* Just being able to connect with people with the same problems as me.
* Nothing.
* The testimonies of polypropylene mesh recipients, Dr Angus' adamant discount of the need to use the mesh at all and offering alternatives, the TGA representative inability to defend the total lack of accountability, the unbelievable ignorance of the TGA and the fact that no one except for the recipients and some panel members (sorry can't remember names) were the only ones that highlighted the fact that the mesh needs to be removed. That the medical culture and attitude towards women and men who suffer chronic pain need to be heard, not laughed at.
* Presenting a united front, the ability to speak to TGA representatives in person, to meet other mesh victims in person who I had only connected with online

**What were the low lights?**

* Bad sound, too much other noise. Hard to work out timing of who was talking at each point.
* Everything imploded on me during a workshop It wasn’t the actual workshop it was more the weight of what I am caught up in, and the lack of empathy from TGA. The whole “realness” of what is and isn’t happening.
* One of the lowlights was that very few videos from mesh injured people were seen, and also no comments were used. I realise there were time constraints and that these will be used in the reporting of the forum. However, I put a call to the ladies in our group to make an effort even if it was hard. A lot of women made videos and statements despite many barriers to them doing this (such as ill health, depression, feeling it was a waste of time cause things don't change), etc. And to have so few of them viewed was disappointing. Maybe they can be quoted in the findings. Also maybe next time quotes, etc could be displayed in the room. A book could be left for people to write in also. Knowing that virtual attendees were having lots of difficulty accessing the forum was also a lowlight because many of these people wanted to be there and show support. The video announcement by Greg Hunt...yes there is the money for a prospective register. BUT already mesh injured are ignored again...NOTHING to help us. They ignore us at their peril. The TGA changes are both high and lowlights for me...they show that they are willing to change but do not go far enough to protect future people, including our children and grandchildren. The video link cutting out in Senator Rachel Siewert's talk.....I really felt that she heard and empathised with mesh injured people, and her acknowledgement of us was really important...to be able to hear it was ok but we needed to see it too. That was probably the lowest lowlight.
* Having only one question answered from the online attendees. Watching panel members laugh and talk amongst themselves whilst other panel members were addressing the audience.
* This being the first time we had gathered together, it was understandable that many expressed their absolute betrayal by the Medical Profession, their anger and frustration at their situation. I hope that the connections we all made or strengthened will help us move forward to make change.
* Very very emotional
* the fact I had to hear public servants next to me clearly having had their trips etc. on tax payers money concentrating on networking rather than the objective of the day. Hearing and noticing the politics between the various mesh groups in a none too subtle manner. I didn't come to the workshop for that. Extremely disappointing that the groups don't appear to work together.
* Mostly directed at women side of things
* The low lights were the testimonials which were very sad, the raw emotions and seeing women and men with tears. The frustration in outbursts in the forum.
* Feeling frustrated with TGA John Skerrit and the video of Greg Hunts message. Found them both condescending
* The distress experienced and expressed by the women
* Technical difficulties. My written testimonial was not read or referred to as far as I can tell. I understand the time constraints would have been the reason.
* The dominance of some people . A man known to you interrupted the workshop and then took over the summing up. At that point I left and felt I was not better informed.
* Lack of control which enabled too many people to interrupt with their own traumas. Difficult for organisers to manage, given the nature of the event
* I understand the level of concern and emotion that this issue has caused, and I think the facilitator did an excellent job under very challenging circumstances but some of the interchanges were not ideal.
* Witnessing the disregard that John Skerrit displayed during the deeply moving women's stories.
* Not being able to go the whole day without a break from sitting or standing
* Too much about vaginal mesh not enough about hernia mesh.
* Lack of engagement from those in positions that can make change.
* The lies being told
* The psychotherapist did not step in when traumatised man at front of audience was silenced and Gai Thompson was not silenced also - there was no attention to building a story for moving forward and encouraging all groups to commit to it - this could have been facilitated better and agreed upon whilst there was some good will No real support for hernia affected people :(
* Disinterest shown at times by focused participants on camera! Not enough time given to Dr Angus or importance placed on his information.
* Quality of virtual presentation
* Nothing changes if nothing changes.
* The way many consumers conducted themselves. They did not respect the forum leaders and spoke over the top of speakers. Whilst I appreciate many consumers have had an awful time coping with mesh implants I think the outcomes from the symposium were reduced as a result of self-indulgent consumers wanting to air their personal plights
* This Forum seems to be a missed opportunity. While I recognise the pain and suffering endured by many of us who attended; too much of the activities were spent navel gazing and repeating incredibly similar anecdotes or previous experience rather than actually articulating a viable plan to move forward and "Finish the Business". And what few ideas for progressing the situation that were put forward were either unethical/illegal (e.g. mandating double blind clinical trials for medical devices) or impossible (e.g. wanting to create a perfect, retrospective register of implanted devices). I think two things could have remedied this- greater involvement of other stakeholders and a firmer hand from the discussion moderators. Although admittedly the former is out of the hands of the organisers and the latter needs to be done very carefully given the trauma many people have suffered.
* I left feeling disillusioned about the day. I don't feel we really got anywhere further and it is quite obvious that the mesh affected (who are injured physically & mentally) will still have to continue to drive & push for help. I was also frustrated with some audience members (mesh affected) butting into presentations and not allowing the panel to talk so you could hear what they had to say (the TGA did not have to attend but they did so I wanted to hear what he had to say). Seeing the devastation caused by mesh was another - the amount of men & women who all have the "mesh walk".
* Greg Hunts response does not help the injured. The longevity of suffering and lack of assistance financially, access to removals and medical support is unacceptable The general medical profession not being educated on mesh injured and ignoring cries for help. There is no independent regulatory body with powers to implement change and improve regulation.
* The abuse of John Skerritt by a frustrated audience member! The almost exclusive acknowledgement of trans vaginal and pelvic mesh with very little focus on the men and women victims of hernia mesh. We really need the message to be Mesh is mesh!
* Not having enough time for Q & A. Wish more implanting doctors/surgeons had the guts to attend...Cowards...
* tech issues expert panel could have gone for longer outcomes/goals not addressed. how consumer and health professional are going to work together and re-establish trust and improved health outcomes
* Obviously missing a great deal of the streaming process, that Greg Hunt was not there in person to 'see'. I think there should have been a counsellor or similar avail for streaming participants, esp after the videos from mesh injured. I felt such despair after watching these
* To not have the opening statements from Hon Greg Hunt and Hon Catherine King was extremely disappointing for everyone. Maybe he was having another photo with the CEO of Johnson & Johnson. He makes an apology to the mesh sufferers around Australia and then is seen in that photo was insulting. We all wanted to ask him so many questions and didn’t have the chance. Pleased he found the money just before a very important federal election. Now we can have a registry from the $2.3 million. Watching Professor John Skerritt on his phone the majority of the time the presentation was being shown. He showed no interest or compassion throughout this presentation and he was distracted during the panel discussions as well, talking with Danny while others were talking. The presentations had taken Mesh sufferers so many overwhelming emotions to put together and he couldn’t even give them the respect they deserved. He put his head up a couple of times to watch with still no response of emotion. With women crying near by him. No matter what important message was on his phone it could of waited for that brief time. Disgraceful!!! There should of been more time allocated for questions and answers from the panel. We just got started and it was getting interesting and then it was over as we were running late. This was extremely disappointing especially for the people on the online link as well. Having a system in place for who’s asking and who’s answering. I do realise, this wouldn’t be an easy task to organise, especially in a room full of emotions and frustrations. It’s not impossible though. I would of preferred less time for the workshops.
* It seemed factions went out of their way to make sure Mesh Injured Australia's impact on the event was limited. I truly wish all parties could find a way to move forward to work towards the ONE goal. I hoped that the "community" workshop would do that, but the personalities involved in the factions didn't attend, only a couple of Mesh Injured Australia reps attended which didn't seem useful to bring all the parties together. Also, on livestream the amount of negative comments made in the "chat" area were disconcerting. Did they not realise that was public to all attending via livestream, and if they had a question they could of used the platform provided? I found it frustrating. Also, I still don't understand WHO is the regulatory body who is supposed to be overseeing implementation of the senate inquiry recommendations? ACSQHC were there, but didn't answer the question when asked.
* Not well organised. IT issues and general organisation was poor. It seemed very messy and not taken seriously.
* Hearing that the TGA is politically governed rather than independent. Ministers address only by video and no compensation or ‘real’ change to help those desperately in need of acknowledgement and ongoing support.
* Technical issues.
* The gentleman that was a bit aggressive and bad language
* The lack of Wifi connection at important times.
* Nothing helpful for those of us already permanently injured at all. Why is QLD given funds for a mesh clinic and other states left behind as if we don’t matter? Not long enough (to cover issues and questions and concerns. Total lack of compassion from officials and ignorant behaviour. No mention of medical or financial help.
* I realize it takes time to introduce changes and create a system that is actually a patient focused approach but I felt that we weren't heard that well, that most of the facts presented proved that the mesh products need to be taken off the shelves until examined thoroughly or removed 100% before the numbers grow along with the complications. I feel we need to take prompt action to halt faulty procedures and devices rather than sitting around discussing how we got here, playing the blame game and what we'd like for our futures. Be mindful that mesh implants tend to shorten our lifespan, so acting promptly is very important.
* Mr Skerrit and his phone 😢 - very inappropriate

## **FINANCIAL ACQUITTAL**



1. <https://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Senate/Community_Affairs/MeshImplants> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. <http://www.healthissuescentre.org.au/images/uploads/documents/Hernia_mesh_report_final.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. <http://www.healthissuescentre.org.au/images/uploads/documents/Hernia_mesh_appendices_final.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. <https://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Senate/Community_Affairs/MeshImplants/Submissions> [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. <http://www.healthissuescentre.org.au/images/uploads/documents/Consumers_backgrounder_Final.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. <https://www.hconc.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/Health-Matters-Autumn-2019-WEB.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-6)