

## Prisoner forcibly medicated: wrote to Senator Clive Palmer

"Today the Mental Health Review Tribunal will decide whether to order the forced medication of a prisoner who is accused of being mentally ill because he "regularly sends drawings and ideas for inventions to...Senator Clive Palmer. His political interests should not be medicalised" said Justice Action Coordinator Brett Collins.

"The man is [Malcolm Baker](#). He has served twenty three years, with fifteen years in effective solitary confinement. He has been gentle during the whole period and there is no accusation against him to justify his treatment. His family is closely in contact and I have almost daily phone contact as his primary carer. We have now published an [open letter to Justice Health psychiatrist Dr Simonelli](#) and an [earlier letter to the Tribunal from Malcolm](#)" said Mr Collins.

"There is no evidence that he is a risk of serious harm to himself or others [as required](#) by the Mental Health Act. Increasingly prisoners are being rendered semi-comatose as a management tool, in breach of the law and their human rights. They are legally entitled to have Health support rather than to fear it as part of the punishment regime, but prisoners are powerless and vulnerable hidden from public view. The Tribunal has become a disgraceful rubber stamp avoiding its statutory obligation to supervise extremely invasive medical attacks presented as care" said Mr Collins.

"Challenging the Tribunal, forensic patient Saeed Dezfouli has been three times to the Supreme Court and is preparing for a fourth. On the 26<sup>th</sup> March the Mental Tribunal [refused to supervise the hospital with orders](#). Justice Health lawyers said it would be unwieldy to limit its power to determine treatment as it saw fit. The Tribunal admitted that it hadn't issued orders since 2009. See full report and [analysis](#) of the Lindsay J. judgment of Tribunal obligations, and the Government's position on the need for the Tribunal to give authorisation" said Mr Collins.

"The MHRT Tribunal President Howard SC provided "reasons for decision" document 31st of October 2014 specifying the medication, but was overruled by the hospital a few weeks later. They forced on Saeed the medication that he feared, upped the dose and left him sick and dazed. The Tribunal's [recommendations](#) for consumer worker support and access to a computer continue to be ignored" said Mr Collins.

"The Government announced that it has withdrawn its claim for court costs amounting to \$60,000 for previous court cases, and has withdrawn its request for an arrest warrant against Saeed's primary carer" said Mr Collins.