



**Deputy Premier of Western Australia
Minister for Health; Tourism**

Our Ref: 25-26020

Ms Joanne Matthews
Reflux Infants Support Association Inc
info@reflux.org.au

Dear Ms Matthews

Thank you for your e-mail of 8 March 2012 regarding the Reflux Infants Support Association (RISA) and the valuable work that is undertaken by RISA in supporting families with children with gastro-oesophageal reflux disease (GORD).

The Western Australian Department of Health (DOH) provides a range of services to support and monitor the wellbeing and healthy development of babies and children. This includes scheduled contacts with child health nurses from birth to commencement of school who support, monitor and promote the physical, cognitive, social and emotional development of children in these important early years.

If concerns are raised regarding symptoms of GORD, Child Health Nurses can provide advice or refer parents to a General Practitioner. The DOH also has an information brochure on infant reflux that is available to families, which can be accessed at:

http://www.health.wa.gov.au/docreg/Education/Population/ChildHealth/IllnessesandHealth_Problems/HP8862_reflux.pdf.

I am also aware that the leading Western Australian not-for-profit provider of early parenting services, Ngala, also provides parenting and early childhood services for families with young children. As part of an extensive range of services provided, Ngala has a number of trained staff that follow appropriate assessment and referral processes for GORD related issues.

Unfortunately, as the Western Australian State Budget is fully committed, I am unable to offer financial support to RISA Inc at this time.

Thank you for contacting my office and bringing this matter to my attention.

Yours sincerely

Dr Kim Hames MLA
DEPUTY PREMIER
MINISTER FOR HEALTH

03 APR 2012