**NEWS** 

## Toowoomba man with rare disorder creates lifesaving kit



by MEGHAN HARRIS

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TOOWOOMBA man George Helon has lived with an extremely rare disorder his entire life.

But he is using his experience with his disorder to help others.

Mr Helon was born with a multiple-anomaly genetic disorder pallister-hall syndrome, with only 300 known cases worldwide.

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The symptoms associated with the disorder may vary however it affects the development of many parts of the body.

Mr Helon is almost profoundly deaf and in 2001 he was hospitalised for 12 days in Brisbane and diagnosed with an inoperable 4.5cm brain tumour and gelastic seizures.

Mr Helon has been in and out of hospital throughout his life and in response to his situation he decided to develop an emergency medical data card.

The card was designed to help allied, specialist and emergency services to better respond to his needs and over the years he has finetuned the concept and created MedicReady kits.

MedicReady is an innovative range of first alert, accident, emergency and medical data kits for patients, motorbike riders and vehicle drivers.

They include embossed key rings, medical data cards, magnets, stickers, vehicle and motorbike decals, lanyards and ID pouches for the elderly.

The kits include medical information about the person carrying it.

They are now available publicly and can be bought online and in Toowoomba.

Mr Helon said he was excited to be able to launch MedicReady.

"MedicReady has been a surprise wake-up call to shoppers and residents who have not really thought about carrying emergency medical identification or locators for first alert responders," he said.

"Many have realised just how something like MedicReady can help them when attending health care appointments."

Visit medicready.org to purchase a kit for \$30 or for more information.

A MedicReady stall will be set up at The Ridge Shopping Centre on Saturday, July 29.