

July 18, 2017

Review Secretariat
Review of Pharmacy Remuneration and Regulation
Australian Health Department

Dear Professor King, Bill Scott and Jo Watson,

I am deeply concerned about The King Review Interim Report proposing to have homeopathic medicines removed from pharmacies. I have used homeopathic medicines for my family with great benefit. **I would like to know what scientific evidence** *The King Review* used for its position that the 'sale of homeopathic products creates risk of harm'.

The report considers me incapable of making my own, informed choice about the type of healthcare I use.

Australians are discerning people who spend their money wisely. It is no error of judgement that the use of homeopathy and other natural medicines is growing.

I do not believe that homeopathy has been properly, fairly and scientifically researched by Australia's peak medical body, the NHMRC.

Homeopathy is freely used by large numbers of people in Europe and many other countries, so why prevent Australians from using it?

I am not aware of any cases of harm caused by homeopathic medicines. I am aware though, that many pharmaceutical medicines have serious side effects, which is why I believe homeopathy should remain as a safe treatment option for Australians.

I have found that homeopathic medicines are effective on babies, children and animals, so I know homeopathy has nothing to do with placebo.

Other comments:

I have been consulting homeopaths for approximately forty years and using homeopathic remedies for myself and my three children during that time.

The homeopathic remedy works on an individual level; not like pharmaceutical drugs where one medicine fits all. Homeopathic treatments result in a more precise treatment for the individual which directly provides quicker and safer results.

The consultation with my homeopath takes into account all aspects of my health; not just one symptom.

All of the homeopathic remedies that I have taken over the years have resulted in positive and lasting results.

In some instances, as recently experienced where anaesthetic that was used during two cataract operations, resulted in my loss of taste. I had one homeopathic dose and just

minutes following, my sensation of taste returned after four months loss of this sensation. The general medical fraternity were unable to offer any advice or alternative as to how they could assist me.

I would like to also add that I am now 67 years of age and do not take any prescription /pharmaceutical medications.

Is it not more advantageous to have a society that does not need to rely on daily doses of medication where possible?

In many instances that I am personally aware of, side effects become evident because of these medications. Further medication is then prescribed to alleviate those side effects.

I feel privileged to live in a democratic country; please do not take away my rights to choose how I treat my body in an honest and proactive fashion.

Yours sincerely,

Cheryle Gumbley