

Review of Pharmacy Remuneration and Regulation
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Review Secretariat
Review of Pharmacy Remuneration and Regulation
The Australian Government Department of Health

Dear Professor King, Bill Scott and Jo Watson,

I'm writing to make a submission to the Pharmacy Remuneration & Regulation Interim Report expressing my strong rejection of the proposed option (Option 3-4) for homoeopathic products not to be sold in PBS-approved pharmacies.

This option directly contradicts the basic criteria of the Review's strategic vision: that is, it is not 'forward-looking', does not 'encourage innovation' and it is inconsistent with 'adapting to the changing needs of the Australian public' - who want greater access to medicines of their choice, not less.

I have used homoeopathic medicines for myself and my family for over 20 years with great benefit. I am also a student homeopath who will be graduating my Advanced Diploma of Homeopathy course in 5 weeks time. Homoeopathic products have been available in pharmacies for decades without any evidence that they create 'risk of harm to patient health': a view based on speculation, not evidence.

Australian citizens are intelligent, discerning people who spend their money wisely. Statistics say that 1 million Australian use homoeopathy, not by error of judgment but because they find that it works. A healthy democracy protects the rights of citizens to choose and access the healthcare and medicines they want - that's what a free and healthy society does.

For the welfare of my family, friends and the wider community of Australia I appeal to you all to leave homeopathic products on the shelf of pharmacies in support of informed decision making and choice for all citizens of our country.

Yours sincerely,

Melinda Whyman

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