

Bryant Stokes



20/07/2017

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 proposing to have homeopathic medicines removed from pharmacies. I have used homeopathic medicines for my family with great benefit.

Of greater concern is that Professor King considers me incapable of making my own, informed choice about the form 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, but I am aware 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.

The recommendation that 'homeopathy and homeopathic products should not be sold in pharmacies' is not consistent with the growing trend of the community's choices.

You know what works for you and your family, so you should be able to choose your own healthcare. That's what a free society does. You don't need bureaucrats to decide for you.

The Review has ignored the safe record and widespread use of homeopathic products in Europe, where 29% of citizens freely access homeopathic products in pharmacies.

70 per cent of Australians use complementary medicine services and products. Removing homeopathic products in pharmacies does not represent of the views or desires of the Australian community.

I find this appalling that this is even on the table for consideration.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. Stokes', with a stylized, cursive flourish at the end.

Bryant Stokes