

21 July 2017

Dear Panel,

REVIEW OF PHARMACY REMUNERATION AND REGULATION INTERIM REPORT SUBMISSION

Thank you for the opportunity to submit a response to the Interim Pharmacy Remuneration and Regulation Interim Report. At Fred IT Group (Fred), our major focus relates to section 2.9 – **The Benefits of an Electronic Health Record for Consumers**, including:

- **Option 2-7: Electronic Prescriptions**
- **Option 2-8: Electronic Medications Record**
- **Option 2-9: Electronic Prescriptions – Consumer Choice**
- **Option 2-10: Managing Medicine Risks for Patients Upon Discharge**

Fred is strongly supportive of these options and is committed to working with all the necessary key stakeholders to continue delivering successful outcomes. A prime example of our success in the delivery of successful eHealth solutions is eRx Script Exchange. Having built and operated eRx since 2008, we have seen wide-spread market adoption of Electronic Transmission of Prescriptions across Community Pharmacy and General Practice. Key measures of this success include:

- 27 Prescribe and Dispense Clinical Information Systems integrated.
- 4,850 pharmacies using eRx each month (approximately 90%).
- 22,000 General Practitioners using eRx each month (approximately 80%).
- Over 260 million dispense transactions recorded each year.
- Over 85 million prescribe transactions uploaded each year.
- Over 1.8 billion dispense transactions recorded since launching.

This level of adoption and utilisation (operating 24/7, 365 days per year) is driven by a comprehensive national infrastructure which is ideally positioned to help deliver the key Options

above. By working with key stakeholders to identify other enabling steps required, Fred is willing and able to deliver systems and services for the provision of electronic prescriptions and medications management services to reduce the enormous financial and social impacts of medications misadventure and drive efficiencies through the medications supply chain.

Fred is acutely aware of the concerns regarding issue such as “prescription channelling” and actively supports the need to maintain “Consumer Choice” at all times. This is a key guiding principle in our eHealth strategies and designs.

If you have any queries or concerns please contact david.freemantle@fred.com.au.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Freemantle', written in a cursive style.

David Freemantle,

General Manager eHealth

Fred IT Group Pty Ltd