



20 July 2017

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

Dear Professor King, Bill Scott and Jo Watson,

I wish 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 with great benefit. Homoeopathic products have been available in pharmacies for years without any evidence that they create 'risk of harm to patient health': a view based on speculation, not evidence.

Australians are discerning people who spend their money wisely. Around a million Australian use homoeopathy, not by error of judgment but because they (like me) 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.

In addition, if you've been in a pharmacy lately, you will have been able to see many products that do create a risk of harm to patient health, including sugary candy. The double standard against natural health products astounds me. If you really cared, rather than following some pro-Pharma agenda, you would investigate all products that pharmacies sell, instead of picking on homeopathic products which always "do no harm" (the first and most important tenet of medicine).

Yours sincerely,

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