



16th 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. Homoeopathic medicines are widely used throughout Europe and as a person with German descendant and someone who has travelled to Germany and Europe many times, I have used homoeopathic remedies for myself and my young child during times of travel, sickness and unsettledness with great success. The medicines are not toxic and perfectly harmless.

Australians are discerning people who spend their money wisely. Around a million Australians 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.

I continue to use homoeopathic remedies available from pharmacies to assist with sleep and in times of shock or high stress, such as during exam times or falling off a bike. My eight year old son also uses the medicines to assist with sleep and the shock of the loss of his father to brain cancer. We have managed to sustain a healthy drug free lifestyle using these homoeopathy remedies and would be very angry to see them leave the retail shelves for no reason other than arrogance and ignorance.

Yours sincerely,

A black rectangular redaction mark covering the signature of the sender.