

Review of Pharmacy Remuneration and Regulation Feedback

As per your document

3.5. HOMEOPATHIC PRODUCTS

There are unacceptable risks where community pharmacies are allowed to sell homeopathic products.

DISCUSSION

While most stakeholders supported the continued sale of complementary medicines in community pharmacy, the practice of homeopathy and sale of homeopathic products did not receive such support.

In 2015 the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) conducted an assessment of the evidence of efficacy of homeopathy and concluded:

“Based on the assessment of the evidence of effectiveness of homeopathy, NHMRC concludes that there are no health conditions for which there is reliable evidence that homeopathy is effective. Homeopathy should not be used to treat health conditions that are chronic, serious, or could become serious. People who choose homeopathy may put their health at risk if they reject or delay treatments for which there is good evidence for safety and effectiveness.”¹²³

The general consensus as demonstrated by submissions to the Review and the Panel’s face-to-face consultations is that homeopathy and homeopathic products do not belong in community pharmacies. The majority of pharmacists and other stakeholders argued that these products lack any evidence base and have sufficient evidence of non-efficacy to preclude their ethical sale in community pharmacies.

This is supported by the public positions of professional pharmacy bodies – for example,

¹²³ National Health and Medical Research Council, *Statement on homeopathy* (March 2015).

Looking at the above my comments :-

I conclude :-

“National Health and Medical Research Council”

Is **ignorant** about the benefits of Homoeopathic medicine.

“Based on the assessment of the evidence of effectiveness of homeopathy, NHMRC concludes that there are no health conditions for which there is reliable evidence that homeopathy is effective.”

Absolute rubbish - again very ignorant.

The evidence - is like cures like. Been around since 1800’s.

If there were no benefits then the Queen in UK would not have had a personal Homoeopath.

“Homeopathy should not be used to treat health conditions that are chronic, serious, or could become serious.”

Why would a person go to a chemist for a major issue

Conditions that are chronic should be in the hands of a homoeopath.

Pharmacy cannot treat chronic - only remove symptoms.

People need to know options when seeing a help professional. I cannot see this is relevant discussion as a life threatening condition should go to a hospital, ASAP.

If not life threatening - different issue.

“The majority of pharmacists and other stakeholders argued that these products lack any evidence base and have sufficient evidence of non-efficacy to preclude their ethical sale in community

pharmacies.

This is supported by the public positions of professional pharmacy bodies – for example, ¹²³ National Health and Medical Research Council, *Statement on homeopathy* (March 2015)."

When it says majority - this shows there are still a percentage of intelligent Pharmacists.
Stake holders = is a Capitalistic approach to making Money. Is not interested in Health issues.

Stake holders should always remember - The customer should lead the market place with what they wish to purchase definitely not being told to buy by Big Pharmaceutical companies or Governments.

The Government should be looking at improving health, not improving wealth of the Pharmaceutical companies. Remember many politicians have investments in Pharmacy. This is vested interest and I would have thought should be illegal.

Our Government wanted Medicare - **good and bad** for the overall health of individuals?. They complain about people using Medicare. Since it never addresses health issues and only looks for palliative care and treatment. This is both good and bad. The result is - customers for life. Pharmacy loves this. Medicare should include alternate therapies and homoeopathy prescriptions!!!

I also conclude that stake holders would have to train there staff in product use. Investment verses returns to the \$\$\$ bin would not be the big \$\$ values as drugs, This is contrary to the interests of Big Pharma, and therefore not favoured. Hence this this discussion paper.

This exercise has been a "see-saw" approach to reducing the influence of homoeopathic medicine. If enough – "Stake holders" - on one side verses "Homoeopathic medicine advocates" on the otherside. Lets have truth.!

Part of this exercise is to rubbish in general - homoeopathic medicine
The discussion should have started with Chemist shops.

My Individual case:

I and my wife have taken Pharmaceuticals when required. We also have taken Homoeopathic medicine when required. I prefer to see both being available.

Consumer choice

If you have your evil ways and they prevail then you should you tell potential customers where to obtain what they want, as part of duty of care.

Or

At least give Pharmacies a choice whether they want to stock.

CONCLUSION

You – (the Government) and Pharmacists who say homoeopathy are of no value, look rather silly and display a lot of ignorance since, Europe is now recognising the value of homoeopathy. Backward people and vested interests are holding Australian's back.

What Pharmacy stocks in the way of Homoeopathics is another question.