

15th July 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 Interim Report proposing to have homeopathic medicines removed from pharmacies. I understand that the guiding document informing your report was based on the NHMRC report on homeopathy, which is currently the subject of a complaint to the Commonwealth Ombudsman. ***While this report is under complaint, it cannot be used to form public health policy.***

I do not believe that homeopathy has been properly, fairly and scientifically researched by Australia's peak medical body, the NHMRC.

I would like to know what scientific evidence *The King Review* used for its position that the 'sale of homeopathic products creates risk of harm'.

It is well known that many pharmaceutical over the counter products cause harm such as paracetamol, and that many of the products already sold are not scientifically verified. Indeed, the cost to the health system from serious side effects of these medicines is significant.

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.

Homeopathy is freely used by large numbers of people in Europe and many other countries, so why prevent Australians from using it?

A much ignored fact by medical authorities is that homeopathic medicines are effective on babies, children and animals. Much more than the placebo effect is in play. ***Has anyone in your department actually used homeopathy, or looked at the historic use of it? Is the WHO misguided by promoting it as a viable option for healthcare?***

If I was forming public health policy, I would encourage medicines like homeopathy as safe, effective healthcare.

Yours sincerely,

