

12 December 2019

[REDACTED]
Complementary & OTC Medicines Branch
TGA, Department of Health
PO Box 100, Woden ACT 2606

E [REDACTED]
Cc: TGA.sports.supplements.consultation@health.gov.au

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your invitation to comment on the Therapeutic Goods Administration's consultation document *Sports supplements: proposed clarification that certain sports supplements are therapeutic goods*.

The RACGP supports the changes proposed in the consultation document.

Any product that makes therapeutic claims, such as those made by some sports supplements, should be subject to regulation regarding its quality, safety and efficacy.

The current situation, where certain sports supplements are not subject to therapeutic goods regulation, poses health risks to the public.

- As outlined in the report, consumers face health risks from taking products that contain unsafe ingredients or unsafe doses of ingredients.
- The perception that sports supplements are benign because they are not classed as therapeutic goods may lead to patients not disclosing to their healthcare professional that they are taking these supplements. This can have health implications, for example, regarding interactions between supplements and prescribed or other medications.

There is further need for standardised labelling of sports supplements, so that any medical claims, and the evidence supporting them, are clearly stated.

Thank you again for the opportunity to provide feedback on this document. Should you want to discuss this matter further, please contact [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

Dr Harry Nespolon
President