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**From:** SKERRITT, John  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 13 February 2018 5:39 PM  
**To:** Greg.Hunt.MP; [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]; SKERRITT, John; [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Complementary Medicines [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Dear [REDACTED]

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These guidelines for traditional medicines are in line with World Health Organisation guidelines on the role of complementary medicines. TCM specific indications, such as 'Support protective Qi', have been included in the list in recognition that traditional terminology is required for persons familiar with the TCM paradigm to use the medicines appropriately. Generally, TCM products are recommended to consumers by a TCM practitioner who usually prescribes a particular therapy for a specific condition/period. Under the new scheme these products will have a label statement asking users to consult their TCM practitioner to see if it is right for them.

The Chinese Medicine Board of Australia is responsible for the regulation of Chinese medicine practitioners under the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law. Inclusion of TCM terminology in the list recognises the professional role and responsibilities of the TCM practitioners and is needed for practitioners to prescribe these medicines appropriately. The TGA who will continue to consult with medical experts to see what the most appropriate words that should be used.

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Please don't hesitate to phone me on the number below or email if you wish to discuss the issue further.

Regards

John Skerritt

**Adjunct Prof John Skerritt FTSE FIPAA (Vic)**

**Deputy Secretary for Health Products Regulation  
Department of Health**

(The Health Products Regulation Group comprises the Therapeutic Goods Administration and the Office of Drug Control)

PO Box 100 Woden ACT 2606 Australia

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