

Homeopathic products

I support Option 1 of the TGA recommendations to retain the status quo, and oppose Options 3 and 4.

Homeopathic medicines should be given the same opportunity to meet the TGA criteria as other complementary medicines for traditional or scientific evidence and regulatory monitoring is important to ensure public safety. This includes ensuring that products sold in Australia are manufactured according to Good Manufacturing Practice. Homeopathy is currently one of the safest medicines available and Option One will preserve homeopathic products as therapeutic goods but brings them into line with other medicines. Australians should continue to be free to use homeopathics as therapeutic goods.

I am concerned that if Option 4 was adopted that it would mean that no claims at all could be made for homeopathic products, that professional manufacturing of homeopathics could be impacted and the profession of homeopathy seriously impacted. If Option 4 was adopted it would be contrary to practice in the rest of the world, in particular it would run contrary to regulatory practice in Switzerland where homeopathy will have the same status as conventional medicine by May 2017 when it comes to health insurance.

I urge the TGA to continue with Option 1.

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