

I would like to make a submission in favour of Homeopathy. Over ten years ago I was diagnosed with Rheumatoid arthritis (aged in my late 30's). I was seeing a Rheumatologist and was taking some very strong drugs that I would have to be on for the rest of my life. I needed a walking stick at times. I decided that I was not prepared to do this and looked at alternative therapies. After a few months of treatment using Homeopathic medicines I was taking less and less of the rheumatoid drugs. By the end of the year I no longer went to the Rheumatologist as I had no more symptoms and I manage my disease totally using homeopathics. I have not been to a Rheumatologist since and I am now in my 50's. I am able to go Mountain biking and Kayaking (both things I never thought I could do while I was in so much pain before).

Australia needs to learn from the many more forward thinking countries in Europe etc...that acknowledge alternative therapies such as Homeopathy and support them.

As such I fully support the two proposals below :

**Option 1: leave homoeopathy as it currently is** .Definitely my preferred option.

Option 2: requires higher scientific evidence for high therapeutic claims. I believe this is a reasonable and acceptable option.

I strongly disagree with Options 3 and 4 below:

Option 3: exempt certain homeopathics from having to be listed providing the traditional use of homoeopathic medicines continues to be acknowledged and preserved.

Option 4: declare homeopathic products not to be therapeutic goods.