

Submission regarding the options for the future regulation of 'low risk products' - complementary medicine products-HOMEOPATHIC PRODUCTS.

I have an undergraduate and two postgraduate qualifications in health science. Before retiring from clinical practice as an allied health professional, I worked in hospitals, community health and private practice.

For over four decades, I have chosen healthcare for my family from the best of conventional medicine as well as homeopathy. I have read extensively on homeopathy; I chose it from a well-educated position. I highly value homeopathy because this physician-developed approach is safe, effective, cost-effective, and has stood the test of time. It is widely available overseas, including in the UK, Europe and India. In fact, homeopathy is recognised by the World Health Organisation as the most popular and widely used complementary medicine worldwide. To quote the Swiss Report on Homeopathy, "There is sufficient evidence for the preclinical effectiveness in the clinical efficacy of homeopathy and for its safety and economy compared with conventional treatment."

The TGA is here to protect Australians' safety in relation to medicines and treatments. Why would the TGA consider restricting the access of Australians to homeopathy? Why did the TGA exclude the favourable Swiss Report on Homeopathy from its consultation paper, and yet include a negative one that has been rejected by the UK parliament and another one that is currently before the Australian ombudsman for its bias and irregularities?

Here are just some of the many conditions and situations that I know without a doubt, that homeopathy has helped for me and my family:

Concussion, fractures, bruising, back pain and strains, twisted ankles, recovery from surgery, recovery from anaesthetic, recovery from dental surgery, fevers, infections, skin complaints and digestive issues. Homeopathy has also helped our pets recover from: skin and digestive conditions, injuries and infected wounds.

I support Option 1 and/or Option 2.

I strongly oppose Options 3 and 4. I have grave reservations about Option 3 and I believe Option 4 is completely unacceptable and would rob Australians of information and access to a safe and effective therapy. Australians should not be restricted from free choice and access to homeopathy. Options 3 and 4 are a violation of our rights.

Sincerely

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11 May 2017