

Option 4 – Declare homeopathic products NOT to be therapeutic goods.

My submission to the TGA is to ask that homeopathy not be listed as therapeutic.

I'd actually like to see the TGA go further than this for a number of reasons. Homeopathy proudly proclaims itself as magical, literally asserting that water has memory, despite all evidence from many fields of science disproving their claims. Not only has homeopathy proven to be ineffective, it's dangerous, especially when used as a substitute for approved treatments with a good record.

There is also the issue that homeopathy falls into a grey area in Australia that means it is largely unregulated. Several reports have raised concerns over the quality control involved in production, such that companies cannot guarantee that the products aren't contaminated (broken glass has been found in some products), nor contain what the label claims.

As the TGA would be aware, an analysis of more than 200 academic research papers has concluded that homeopathy is not an effective treatment for any disease or condition. The study was conducted by the National Health and Medical Research Council in Australia, and the value of the individual studies was appraised by an independent company to prevent bias.

Homeopathy has been discredited by academic studies in the past, and the recent findings have led scientists to once more urge consumers and vendors to reconsider buying and selling the ineffective and potentially dangerous remedies, especially in place of treatments with proven efficacy.

In summary: homeopathy lacks evidence for efficacy, lacks quality controls, lacks safety controls, and is being promoted as an "alternative" to treatments that require all three of those things.