

[REDACTED]
9^h May 2017

Dear Sir/Madam,

I would like to express my concern regarding the proposed changes to the regulations governing Homeopathic Medicines in Australia.

I am a huge advocate of Homeopathic Medicines which I have used with great success to treat a variety of ailments and conditions since I was a child. I believe that conventional medicine is also very important & I work as a Registered Nurse. I have found over my life that often Homeopathy is able to help where conventional medicine is limited.

For example, as a child I had poorly controlled asthma despite trying a multitude of different inhaled & oral therapies prescribed by my GP & Respiratory Specialist. I was treated at the Homeopathic Hospital in Glasgow, Scotland where they were able to manage my asthma so effectively that I was able to return to school & live a full life including participating in sport.

More recently, I was diagnosed with Hashimotos Disease, an Auto-Immune Thyroid condition, which is very debilitating. The conventional medical treatment for this condition is oral Thyroxine, and while it did successfully reduce some of my symptoms, I was left with many symptoms which did not improve. By using Homeopathic & Naturopathic medicines, I have successfully regained control of my health. Prior to using these treatments, I found it very hard to function on a daily basis, which was very challenging with a young family.

I have also used Homeopathic Medicine for many other issues, including during childbirth & to manage ailments such as croup in my children. This choice allowed me to avoid exposing my babies to highly potent drugs, helped my body to recover quickly & to avoid giving corticosteroids to my children and therefore avoid their horrible side-effects.

My understanding is that the TGA's role is to protect public safety. I believe that if the TGA adopts it's proposal to "declare homeopathic products NOT to be therapeutic goods", then it will not be protecting my safety or my right to choose homeopathy, in the same way that I can choose to take conventional medicines.

I am extremely alarmed that the TGA is considering making a decision on this issue based on the NHMRC Report on Homeopathy, which I believe is currently being reviewed by an ombudsman because of irregularities, and the UK Science and Technology Report which was rejected by the UK Parliament. The TGA also appears to have omitted evidence from the Swiss Homeopathy in Healthcare Report. Surely any decision should consider all the available evidence & a decision be deferred if that evidence is under scrutiny.

I believe that homeopathy is very safe, & an extremely useful alternative to conventional medicine. I am very much in favour of keeping homeopathy regulated the way it is (option 1) but would also accept option 2, along with the wider homeopathic community.

To protect my rights and access to homeopathy, I strongly oppose Options 3 and 4.

Yours sincerely,

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Resources:

- [The Australian Report: An in-depth analysis - problems with the NHRMC Report](#)
- [Executive Summary: Complaint to Commonwealth Ombudsman regarding NHMRC Assessment of Homeopathy, 2010-2015](#)