

Desley Murphy
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May 10, 2017

Dear Sir/Madam,

I write to express my strong opposition to the TGA Consultation for the future regulation of 'low-risk' products, in particular Option 4 – *to declare homeopathic products NOT to be therapeutic goods* – the implications of which would restrict my rights and freedom to access safe homeopathic health care, advice and medicines.

I have grave concerns that if Option 4 is adopted that homeopathic practitioners will be prevented from providing information and prescribing homeopathic medicines. Homeopathy has been the health care of choice in our family for three generations. We have had outstanding results with homeopathy and have enjoyed excellent health that is affordable and free from dangerous and deleterious side-effects. I do not want my freedom to choose safe and cost effective medicines for my family and my future generations denied or compromised.

The World Health Organization recognizes that homeopathy is the most widely used complementary medicine in the world today. It is used effectively in many countries including Switzerland where it is claimed to be clinically effective, safe and economical compared with conventional treatment and where it has the same status as conventional medicine in regard to health insurance. It is a travesty that the TGA has excluded this report, "The Swiss Homeopathy in Healthcare", from its consultation paper yet has referred to another more questionable report already rejected by the UK Parliament.

I believe that the role of the TGA is to protect our safety with regard to medications **not** to regulate or restrict our access to safe, and by the TGA's own definition, "low-risk" medicines. There is no evidence to suggest that homeopathy has harmed or contributed to the death of anyone, unlike prescription drugs which have 'contributed to 330 of the state's 420 overdose deaths' in Victoria in 2015 (<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2016-04-05/pharmaceutical-drugs-in-nearly-80pc-of-victorian-overdose-deaths/7300036>).

By failing to recognize homeopathic medicines as therapeutic goods in Option 4 of the consultation, the TGA will be isolating Australian health from other systems worldwide where

millions of people are experiencing the safe, affordable and health-giving benefits of homeopathy.

I implore you to reconsider your decision and declare homeopathic remedies to be therapeutic as it would be an undemocratic to deny Australian people the right and freedom to access homeopathic medicine.

Yours faithfully,

Desley Murphy