

Regulatory Reforms Team  
Therapeutic Goods Administration.

Dear Sir/Madam,

I wish to lodge a very strong objection to the possibility of making homeopathic products 'non-therapeutic'. As a practitioner of twenty years' experience, I feel this is unfair, unacceptable and demeaning of that profession to which I have devoted the last twenty years of my life, during which time I have practised honourably and successfully.

Not only does it affect my business but it also means my patients, who are apparently satisfied with the service I provide, could no longer claim for their consultations from their private health funds. Again, it is their choice to see me and I don't believe they should be financially disadvantaged for their choice of alternative therapy.

I have relied on the manufacturers of Homeopathic remedies to supply me with the products that I require and I need these manufacturers in order to maintain my business and service my patients. If these companies were to close down it would be the demise of not only my practice but Homeopathic Medicine as a whole in this country, thereby denying many patients the treatment of their choice. This seems entirely wrong, and at odds with the rest of the world, and I therefore strongly urge that it remain regulated as it has been.

I am disappointed that the TGA has cited the findings of the NHMRC as evidence criteria as it is common knowledge that their quality ratings were both biased and unfairly high. The NHMRC Report is currently under review with the National Ombudsman, suggesting that the outcome cannot be relied upon as evidence at this time, or at least until the review is completed.

I was under the impression that the TGA was there to protect public safety and not make value judgements about products based on information that that our community believe to be both biased and inaccurate.

Therefore, I strongly support Option 1 of the Review – that homeopathy remain regulated as it is currently.

Yours sincerely,  
Judy Smyth  
Homeopath