



THE HON SUSSAN LEY MP

Minister for Health
Minister for Aged Care
Minister for Sport

Media Release

24 November 2015

Review of Pharmacy Remuneration and Regulation

The Minister for Health, the Hon Sussan Ley MP, tonight announced the membership of the Expert Panel for the Review of Pharmacy Remuneration and Regulation (the Review), together with its Terms of Reference.

The Review will look at a range of factors that contribute to patient health outcomes and the quality use of medicines.

“It will consider payments made to community pharmacy for dispensing Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) medicines; the regulation of pharmacy, including Pharmacy Location Rules and how they support access to medicines on the PBS and supply chain arrangements.”

“This Review upholds a clear commitment I made during negotiations of the Sixth Community Pharmacy Agreement, to ensure dollars invested in pharmacy reflects ‘value-for-money’ and that the sector is working efficiently, effectively and remains viable to meet the needs of consumers.”

Minister Ley noted the three members of the Expert Panel have extensive pharmacy, economic and policy expertise, which will ensure the process leads to positive outcomes for pharmacists and consumers.

Professor Stephen King, a Professor of Economics and former Dean at Monash University, will Chair the Review Panel. He will be joined by community pharmacist Mr Bill Scott; and Ms Jo Watson, current Deputy Chair of the CHF Board and consumer representative on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee.

According to Minister Ley “this will be an open and transparent process, seeking views from both the public and the industry”.

“The Review Panel will consult with a broad range of stakeholders, including consumer, pharmacy, wholesaler and health practitioner groups and report to Government by March 2017, helping inform future Community Pharmacy Agreement processes”.

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The Terms of Reference for the Review are available on the PBS website at www.pbs.gov.au

Submissions will be invited following the release of a Discussion Paper during early 2016. Regular updates on the progress of the Review will also be made available on the PBS website.