

## Media Release

### Publication of Registered Complementary Medicines on TGA Website

The Complementary Healthcare Council of Australia (CHC) commends the move by the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) to publish a list of evaluated Registered complementary medicines on their website.

The list of Registered complementary medicines is now available on the TGA website, including the name of the product sponsor and the date the product was listed with the Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods (ARTG). The TGA also provide a link to additional background information on Registered complementary medicines. CHC Executive Director, Dr Wendy Morrow, noted that this action was a further positive step towards a more transparent regulatory process.

“We’re pleased to see the TGA working towards their goal of becoming more transparent. Consumers are at the heart of the Complementary Medicines industry so the more information that is made available to them about the products the better, whilst at the same time respecting “commercial in confidence” matters, Dr Morrow went on to say.

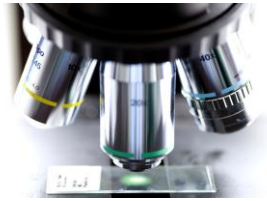
However, it is crucial to note the differences between Aust R (Registered) and Aust L (Listed) products. Listed products are evaluated for quality and safety but are not required to be Registered as they are not considered to be ‘high risk’ products. In ensuring accuracy and in the best interests of consumers, this point should be clearly linked to the published list of Registered complementary medicines on the TGA website.

Listed complementary medicines are consumer choice products used for minor health problems. They contain ingredients approved by the TGA for safety and quality and are therefore considered to be ‘low risk’. They are subject to strict regulations and claims and indications are restricted. On the other hand Registered complementary medicines are considered higher risk products. They encompass products that can be prescribed only or sold through health food stores, pharmacy or other retail outlets. They are therefore assessed for safety, quality and efficacy.

As the peak industry body acting on behalf the Complementary Medicines Industry, the CHC represents sponsors who are included in the list of Registered complementary medicines now available on the TGA website and those who are currently undertaking clinical trials and research which stands to further build on the growing body of scientific evidence around complementary medicines.

“Our recent Pre-Budget Submission, lodged on behalf of the Complementary Medicines Industry back in January, includes a proposal to Government of a clinical trials partnership to foster further scientific research and to add to the existing evidence base,” emphasised Dr Morrow. “We are committed to an appropriately regulated industry underscored by science and one that works with consumers to ensure they have access to both high quality information and products. We also continue to recommend that consumers seek the advice of their health professional when making decisions around their health choices.”

concluded Dr Morrow.



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For more information on the list of Registered complementary medicine products, please visit the Complementary Medicines pages of the TGA website:

<http://www.tga.gov.au/industry/cm-basics-regulation-evaluation.htm>

For further information on the CHC's Pre-Budget Submission, visit the Political and Consumer Affairs pages of the [CHC website](#).

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