



Complementary & OTC Medicines Branch Head

Ms Trisha Garrett, Assistant Secretary to the Complementary & OTC Medicines Branch will be moving to a new role within the Department this month. Trisha has headed the CM branch over the course of the last 4 years, and during a number of major reviews and reform agendas for the complementary medicines sector. CMA extends its thanks to Ms Garrett and wishes her well in her future endeavours.

We are pleased to welcome Ms Lyndall Soper, who will commence in the role of Assistant Secretary for the Complementary & OTC Medicines Branch from 4 February 2016. As an interim arrangement, members can continue to contact the Branch via complementary.medicines@tga.gov.au.

Bilateral meeting with the TGA

CMA will have a bilateral meeting with the TGA in late February to discuss issues of importance to our sector. Members are asked to forward any preliminary details they may have regarding submission trends / estimates or any other matters that may affect the TGA's budget forecasts ahead of the proposed meeting to ensure we are making the correct assumptions. If no new information is received, CMA's approach is to assume volumes will remain as current. Please feel welcome to submit confidential estimates to submissions@cmaustralia.org.au before 24 February 2016.

Extension to NZ Natural Health Products Submission

Members are notified that the consultation for the Regulation of Natural Health Products in NZ has been extended to 5pm, **Friday 4 March** 2016.

The Ministry of Health cited the extension was based on feedback that because the consultation period included the Christmas and New Year holidays some stakeholders have had difficulty in liaising with their members over this time.

CMA has provided its draft response to members of the Regulatory Policy Committee for review. A link to the latest draft response can be found below. Your further feedback is welcome on this draft through to the COB, 2 March 2016 via submissions@cmaustralia.org.au

CMA Submission - [MOH Natural Health Products Bill Consultation 2016 DRAFT](#)

Please note that the date for commenting on the permitted ingredients list has not changed – comments and submissions on this list remain open until 31 May 2016.

ENDS