

**Member Alert**

**Expert Review of Complementary Medicines Regulations  
CM specific chapter open for comment**

Dear member,

CMA has welcomed the publication of the Deregulation Discussion Document by the Government's Independent Expert Panel. Flagged in the announcement of the panel last year, the complementary medicines chapter has been published as addendum to the review discussion paper and outlines several critical areas for industry to consider.

**Call for comments:** Members are invited to provide responses to the discussion paper directly to CMA via [submissions@cmaustralia.org.au](mailto:submissions@cmaustralia.org.au) by **Friday 27 March**. CMA will then provide a final consolidated industry response to the Expert Panel by 8 April 2015. The Complementary Medicines Chapter to the expert review can be [read here](#) and should be read in conjunction with the [Discussion Paper](#).

Submissions are invited on the questions for consideration raised in the chapter plus any other relevant feedback. Members are also welcome to bring to the attention of the Panel other issues related to complementary medicines that fall within the Review's [Terms of Reference](#).

The review discussion paper highlights, among other options, whether complementary medicines should be regulated under a separate legislative framework, for example under Australian consumer legislation and thus the goods be removed from the ARTG. The paper also asks whether CMs should continue to require pre-approval for advertisements directed to consumers or move towards a self-regulatory model or combined statutory self-regulatory model.

As noted by Carl Gibson, CEO of CMA, "this is a once in a lifetime opportunity to frame a regulatory system that is 'light touch – right touch' without undermining the safety or quality of CMs available in Australia. We applaud Professor Lloyd Sansom, Will Delaat and Professor John Horvath for their work in developing an excellent discussion paper, and we look forward to contributing to shape the debate."

The Board of Directors of CMA acknowledges the importance of this once in a generation opportunity and has established a Deregulation Taskforce, chaired by Justin Howden, to consult with members and to develop our formal response.

CMA provided in December a brief submission to the expert panel in anticipation of the CM specific chapter; this response is available on our website and can be [read here](#).