



Media Release

6 February 2019

Checking the Pulse on Reforms to Complementary Medicines

Complementary Medicines Australia (CMA) pre-Budget submission is calling for a health check on the implementation of the new therapeutic goods legislation.

CMA Chief Executive Carl Gibson said: “Australia leads the world in terms of regulation for complementary medicines and the new legislation, introduced last year, sets the regulatory framework for decades to come. The main objectives of the Government’s Medicines and Medical Devices Review (MMDR) was to cut red tape, improve timely and safe access to quality therapeutic goods for consumers, whilst ensuring that the regulatory framework remains risk appropriate”.

“CMA is calling on Government to check that the policy settings are right and being implemented appropriately to the sector. A health check on the roll-out of the reform implementation is required to ensure that the regulations are fit for purpose and Australia remains competitive on the global stage.”

“CMA has worked constructively with the regulator over the years to ensure the reforms to Complementary Medicines fosters a regulatory environment that is supportive of innovation and competitiveness. We applaud the implementation of the recommendation from the MMDR that provides a new approval pathway for listing complementary medicines with higher therapeutic indications and health claims. The goal is to encourage and reward greater investment in research and development by industry and be an incentive to further expand the clinical research base for complementary medicines, enabling Australian companies to expand business opportunities,” said Mr Gibson.

In its comprehensive pre-Budget submission CMA is also calling on Government to support the growth of Australian exports; focus on preventative health; support investment in research and restore private health insurance rebates for natural therapies.

ENDS

For Media Interviews Contact:

CMA, Chief Executive, Carl Gibson +61 457 028 974

E-mail: Carl.Gibson@cmaustralia.org.au