



Review of the National Medicines Policy

The Minister for Health has established an Expert Advisory Committee to lead the Review of the National Medicines Policy for the Department of Health. To gain insights from stakeholders, the Committee prepared a Discussion Paper to provide context for the Review and to encourage consideration of the issues that could be addressed by the Review.

Cancer Council partnered with the Clinical Oncology Society of Australia (COSA), the Medical Oncology Group of Australia (MOGA) and the Cancer Nurses Society of Australia (CNSA) to make a submission focussing on several recommendations that hold relevance to optimal cancer care.

Whilst generally supportive of the objectives of the National Medicine Policy we offered examples to increase consumer engagement and consultation, expand on proposed principles that will underpin the objectives, and encouraged ways to future proof the new National Medicines Policy. We were united in asking the Committee to consider personalisation of the Policy to address the current and future needs of people affected by cancer, including enhancing health literacy, reducing the impact of high costs of medicines, looking at ways to make data more effective and improve accountability and transparency of the National Medicines Policy.

Once considered by the review team a copy of the submission will be available on the review website <https://consultations.health.gov.au/technology-assessment-access-division/national-medicines-policy-review/>