

# Health Technology Assessment (HTA) Consumer Consultative Committee Communiqué

The HTA Consumer Consultative Committee (CCC) met on Friday 19 February 2021 via WebEx videoconference. This was the 14<sup>th</sup> formal meeting of the HTA CCC.

## Attendees

Attendees included consumer representatives from the Pharmaceutical Advisory Committee (PBAC), the Prostheses Listing Advisory Committee (PLAC) and the Medical Services Advisory Committee (MSAC) and their subcommittees as well as a consumer representative from the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) Advisory Committee on Medicines (ACM). The Drug Utilisation Sub-Committee (DUSC) consumer representative and mentee were also in attendance.

Departmental representatives at the meeting were from Consumer Evidence and Engagement Unit (CEEU) and the Office of Health Technology Assessment (OHTA) HTA Support Unit were also in attendance.

## Outcomes

The Chair provided an update to The House of Representatives inquiry into approval processes for new drugs and novel medical technologies in Australia. The House of Representatives Inquiry is still accepting written submissions with public hearings beginning in March 2021.

The Chair provided a status review of consumer member role descriptions. It is in the process of finalising the roles that were drafted last year ensuring the process changes that have occurred are addressed. The Chair noted that this would start with MSAC and PBAC consumer representative roles, and move to PLAC. This information will also be used to when recruiting future consumer representatives as part of the mentoring program.

The Committee was informed that Bel Harper would finishing her term with the PBAC following the March 2021 PBAC meeting, and therefore ending her current membership on the CCC following this meeting.

The Consumer Evidence Engagement Unit (CEEU) report provided an update of the work of the CEEU noting another trial of the Summary of Information for Consumer Organisations would be undertaken for an item on the March 2021 PBAC meeting. This was piloted at the November 2020 PBAC meeting and found that the summary had been helpful in providing more tailored comments which were found to be helpful for the discussants.

Members also discussed other work plan activities aimed at strengthening customer engagement, such as updating the HTA website, creating a dedicated consultation hub and hosting a consumer symposium.

The next meeting is provisionally planned to be held in Canberra on Friday 14 May 2021. Followed by meetings in July 2021 and September 2021.

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