

# Having Your Say

## Submissions and Surveys

The Review Panel's Discussion Paper is available at [health.gov.au/pharmacyreview](http://health.gov.au/pharmacyreview).

You can have your say on the Discussion Paper and pharmacy more generally by making a written submission (of any length) to the Review or by completing an online questionnaire that takes about twenty five minutes to complete.

Formal submissions may be sent to [pharmacy.review@health.gov.au](mailto:pharmacy.review@health.gov.au) or posted to  
Pharmacy Review (MDP 900)  
GPO Box 9848  
Canberra ACT 2601  
until **23 September 2016**.

The online questionnaire is available at [health.gov.au/pharmacyreview](http://health.gov.au/pharmacyreview) until **30 September 2016**.

## Public Forums

From August to September the Review Panel undertook a national consultation process. The 15 public forums held in capital cities and major regional centres across Australia gave over 900 people including pharmacists, wholesalers, consumer groups, students and members of the public, a valuable opportunity to share their thoughts on pharmacy in face-to-face discussions with the Review Panel.

A national interactive webcast, broadcast live from Canberra on 7 September 2016, provided a further occasion for engagement in the national conversation through online platforms and social media.

You can view the national webcast at [health.gov.au/pharmacyreview](http://health.gov.au/pharmacyreview)

# More information

For more information about the Review of Pharmacy Remuneration and Regulation, please visit the Review website at [health.gov.au/pharmacyreview](http://health.gov.au/pharmacyreview).

If you have any questions about how you can contribute to the consultation process or about the Review in general, please contact the Review Secretariat directly at [pharmacy.review@health.gov.au](mailto:pharmacy.review@health.gov.au)

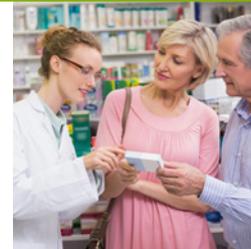
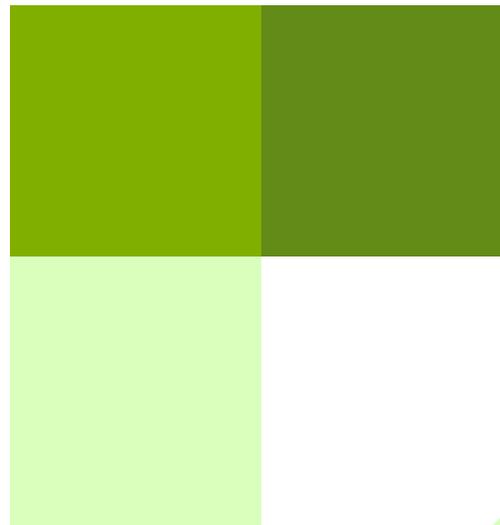


Australian Government  
Department of Health

## The Review of Pharmacy Remuneration and Regulation

# Have your say

The role of community pharmacy in your health care — now, and into the future



11615 September 2016

All information in this publication is correct as at September 2016

# Why is there a Review of Pharmacy?

The Australian Government pays wholesalers and pharmacies to distribute and dispense medicines that are subsidised by the Australian Government under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS). The Australian Government also has rules and regulations that say where pharmacies can operate. These payments and rules are meant to ensure that Australian consumers can access PBS medicines anywhere in the country. The Australian Government and the Pharmacy Guild of Australia (the Guild), which represents the majority of pharmacy owners, negotiate these agreements to ensure there is consistent access and service available to support the national health system, and the population.

The most recent agreement is the Sixth Community Pharmacy Agreement (the 6CPA) which began in July 2015.

This Review of Pharmacy Remuneration and Regulation is part of the 6CPA. It will let the Government know if the current regulations and payments to pharmacy are doing their job — which is to provide reliable and affordable access to PBS medicines for consumers.

# Message from the Chair of the Independent Review Panel

In November 2015, the Minister for Health, the Hon Sussan Ley, announced that for the first time in two decades there would be an independent, comprehensive review of pharmacy remuneration (payments) and regulation by the Australian Government.

Minister Ley appointed Mr Bill Scott, Ms Jo Watson and myself as an expert Panel, independent of the Government, to conduct this Review and has publicly said that she wants us *“to consider first and foremost if we have a system that meets the needs of consumers”*.

Since then, the other Panel members and I have been meeting with pharmacists, wholesalers and different patient and consumer organisations to find out what they think about the current system, what the issues are and how we could make improvements.

After listening to them, we wrote a Discussion Paper that reflects what we have heard so far and asks questions that challenge everybody to think about how we could do things better, now and into the future.

Now it is your turn to have your say directly to us. We want to hear what you like or dislike about the pharmacy products and services you receive. For instance, what are the things you value about community pharmacy services? Are pharmacies accessible enough? What are the services you would like pharmacists to provide?

Community pharmacies are a valuable part of the Australian health system. The Panel's goal is to deliver a report that will help the Government make decisions which improve access to the medicines and pharmacy services most valued by consumers. Help us achieve this by being part of our Review and having your say.

## **Professor Stephen King**

Panel Chair

Review of Pharmacy Remuneration and Regulation

