Dear Alan,

Re: Resignation as the Choice representative on the Therapeutic Goods Advertising Consultative Committee

I have documented concerns about the Australian regulation of therapeutic goods advertising and complementary medicines over many years (publications appended).

As the Choice representative on the former Complaint Resolution Panel and Therapeutic Goods Advertising Code Council and, more recently the Therapeutic Goods Advertising Consultative Committee (TGACC), I have attempted to improve the system from within.

I had hoped that my involvement and advocacy would encourage the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) to focus more on consumer protection and less on industry assistance.

However, like others, I have concluded that my efforts have largely been a failure; that, given its current leadership, the TGA will not change, and there is no point in any further involvement. Hence my resignation.

Sincerely,

Dr Ken Harvey MB BS, FRCPA, AM
35A Mary St
Hawthorn, Vic, 3122
M: 0419 181 910
28 October 2020

Cc.

• Hon Greg Hunt, Minister for Health,
• Hon Chris Bowen, Shadow Minister for Health,
• TGACC.
Relevant publications

14. Harvey K. We can’t have it both ways on homeopathy. ABC The Drum, 10 April 2014.
16. Harvey K, Yan A, Latham, N. Don’t believe the hype – your complementary medicines are unlikely to deliver, The Conversation, Dec 14, 2015.
22. Harvey K. New complementary medicine health claims lack evidence, so why are they even on the table? The Conversation, July 21, 2017.
24. Harvey K. Science or Snake Oil: will horseradish and garlic really ease a cold? The Conversation, November 27, 2017.
31. Harvey K. The Therapeutic Goods Administration must do better. Pearls and Irritations, 10 July 2020.