

MEDIA RELEASE

Independent Review Process Welcomed by Pharmaceutical Industry

Medicines Australia is delighted that the Federal Government has established a process that allows an independent review of decisions made by the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee (PBAC).

“The Free Trade Agreement was signed by Australia and the United States in May 2004 and in February last year the Federal Government announced details on how the Independent Review process would work,” said the Chief Executive Officer of Medicines Australia, Kieran Schneemann.

“Following extensive consultations and some unexpected delays, a convenor has now been appointed, which is a very positive outcome.

“We congratulate Ms Linda Webb on her appointment and look forward to an independent, transparent and productive process, as we move ahead on what is a very important initiative for both Government and Industry.

“Companies have the opportunity to pursue an independent review following recommendations made by the PBAC on whether medicines should be listed on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme.

“This is an important advance transparency and good governance, and we very much welcome the Government’s support for the Independent Review process.”

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