

**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON
COMMUNITY AFFAIRS**

LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

**Inquiry into the National Health
Amendment (Pharmaceutical Benefits
Scheme) Bill 2010**

SUBMISSION

SUBMISSION NUMBER: 24

SUBMITTER

Novo Nordisk Pharmaceuticals



Wednesday, 20 October 2010

Committee Secretary
Community Affairs Legislation Committee
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Committee Secretary

Re: Inquiry into the National Health Amendment (Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme) Bill 2010

Novo Nordisk Pharmaceuticals would like to offer its support for the National Health Amendment (Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme) Bill 2010 and the submission made by Medicines Australia to the Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee.

We understand the increasing pressures placed on Government and policy makers to provide an economically sustainable Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) that also allows Healthcare Professionals to continue to prescribe the latest and most innovative medicines to patients in need. However, for a global pharmaceutical company like Novo Nordisk to be able plan ahead and make strategic investments in Australia, an efficient registration system, alongside an integrated reimbursement and stable pricing system is of paramount importance.

The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Commonwealth and Medicines Australia on behalf of the research based pharmaceutical industry in Australia, represents an extension of the measures implemented as part of PBS Reform and a step in the right direction. Novo Nordisk therefore ask the Committee to support the recommendations made by Medicines Australia on behalf of its members and recommend that Parliament passes the National Health Amendment (Pharmaceutical Benefit Scheme) Bill 2010 before the end of the year.

Yours faithfully


Peter Soelberg
General Manager