



3 March 2017
Committee Secretary
Senate Standing Committees on Community Affairs
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Sent by email: community.affairs.sen@aph.gov.au

To whom it may concern,

Re: Therapeutic Goods Amendment (2016 Measures No.1) Bill 2016

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the *Therapeutic Goods Amendment (2016 Measures No. 1) Bill 2016* (Cth).

We are writing in support of the submission made by the Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations (AFAO) and the National Association of People with HIV Australia (NAPWHA).

ACON is New South Wales' leading health promotion organisation specialising in HIV prevention, HIV support and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) health. Established in 1985 as the AIDS Council of NSW, our mission is to enhance the health and wellbeing of our communities by ending HIV transmission among gay and homosexually active men, and promoting the lifelong health of LGBTI people and people with HIV.

We acknowledge the competing priorities that the Therapeutic Goods Administration must balance to ensure that new medicines and devices are approved in a timely way, yet also to safeguard the health of the Australian community by ensuring that medicines and devices are safe. The proposed amendment will allow the TGA greater scope to adjust its processes to meet its objectives and it is our position that these recommendations are appropriate.

We would like to emphasise from the AFAO and NAPWHA submissions two key points: Consumer input into these processes are essential and improving opportunities for public stakeholders to participate will improve transparency and accountability. Secondly, the opportunity for fast-tracking certain applications will have a positive impact on our organisation's ability to meet our goals and targets, including those set through Government strategies.

Thank you again for the opportunity to contribute to this consultation, should you wish to discuss these matters any further, please don't hesitate to contact me at [REDACTED]

Kind regards

[REDACTED]
James Gray
Associate Director, Policy, Strategy and Research

SYDNEY
414 Elizabeth Street,
Surry Hills NSW 2010
+61 2 9206 2000
acon@acon.org.au

HUNTER
129 Maitland Rd,
Islington NSW 2296
+61 2 4962 7700
hunter@acon.org.au

NORTHERN RIVERS
27 Uralba St,
Lismore NSW 2480
+61 2 6622 1555
northernrivers@acon.org.au

SOUTHERN NSW
PO Box 1073,
Wollongong 2500
+61 2 9206 2113
regionaloutreach@acon.org.au

COFFS HARBOUR
Shop 21/20 Gordon St,
Coffs Harbour NSW 2450
+61 2 6651 6017
athoener@acon.org.au

PORT MACQUARIE
Shop 3/146-150 Gordon St,
Port Macquarie NSW 2444
+61 2 6584 0943
mnc@acon.org.au

WWW.ACON.ORG.AU

ABN
38 136 883 915

Authority to Fundraise
CFN/21473

ACON acknowledges the support of its primary funder, NSW Health