



Department of Health  
Government of Western Australia

Your ref  
Our ref  
Enquiries

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The General Manager  
Adjudication Branch  
Australian Competition & Consumer Commission  
PO Box 1199  
DICKSON ACT 2602

Dear Sir

Thank you for your letter of 5 December 2005 seeking comment on the application for revocation and substitution (A90994-6) lodged by Medicines Australia Inc.

In general, Edition 15 is an update of the Code and provides for an improved accountability and standards.

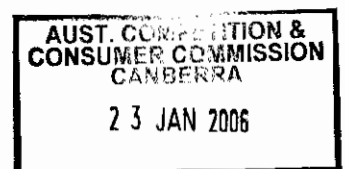
Item 4.6 of the submission, titled "Product Starter Packs (samples) describes how "starter packs" will be controlled and the section of the Code has been extensively revised and expanded as a result of industry and stakeholder consultation and negotiation with the National Coordinating Committee on Therapeutic Goods (NCCTG) following the Final Report of the National Competition Policy Review of Drugs, Poisons and Controlled Substances legislation (The Galbally Review).

I wish to advise that while the NCCTG has been considering, in collaboration with Medicines Australia, amendments to the starter packs (samples) section of Item 4.6, it has not yet endorsed the revised Code. The NCCTG is in the process of considering whether further amendments to the starter pack (samples) section of the Code are required. Despite this, the revision of the Code as set out in Edition 15 is seen as providing improved accountability and standards around the provision of starter packs (samples) by pharmaceutical companies personnel and is supported.

Thank you for providing the Department with the opportunity to comment on this matter.

Yours sincerely

Dr John de Campo  
**ACTING DIRECTOR GENERAL**



/s/ January 2006