

Davis, Bronwyn

From: Davis, Bronwyn
Sent: Tuesday, 31 January 2006 2:39 PM
To: 'Marsh, Emma'
Cc: Oddie, Carolyn; Arnaud, Isabelle
Subject: Medicines Australia: update

Dear Emma

Please find an update on the Medicines Australia applications for revocation and substitution (A90994-6).

Submissions received

As you may be aware, the closing date for submissions from interested parties on the substantive application lodged by your client Medicines Australia was 20 January 2006.

Since I last provided you with an update on 11 January, the ACCC has received submissions from the interested parties listed below. These are available from the public register site: <http://www.accc.gov.au/content/index.phtml?itemId=716327>

- Ken Harvey - La Trobe University - 24.01.06
- Sanofi-Aventis Group - 23.01.06
- Australian Consumers' Association - 20.01.06
- Department of Health Government of Western Australia - 18.01.06
- Doctors Reform Society - 20.01.06
- Merck Sharp & Dome (Australia) Pty Limited - 18.01.06
- Department of Health and Ageing - 17.01.06
- NSW Health Department Pharmaceutical Services Branch - 16.01.06
- Wyeth Australia Pty Limited - 13.01.06
- Tasmanian Department of Health and Human Services - 12.01.06
- Department of Health and Ageing, Therapeutic Goods Administration - 11.01.06
- Australasian Society of Clinical and Experimental Pharmacologists and Toxicologists - 09.01.06

Request for further information

The ACCC would also appreciate receiving further information on some areas of the Code to assist us in our assessment:

- What exactly is involved in a Product Familiarisation Program (clause 5.2)? Can Medicines Australia provide an outline of the kinds of activities that would be undertaken in such a program, and by whom?
- What constitutes a 'healthcare professional organisation' (clause 7)? This term does not appear to be in the glossary.
- What sorts of activities are 'medical practice activities' (clause 7.1.5)?
- Can Medicines Australia provide an outline of what is involved in a Patient Support Program (clause 9.8) and give some examples?
- What was the rationale behind changing the membership of the Code Committee (clause 11.2), particularly changing the person/body nominated by a patient support group to one nominated by the Royal Australasian College of Physicians, and the consumer representative (from 'a consumer organisation' to the Consumers' Health Forum)?
- How will the independent facilitator (used to assist non-industry complainants) be appointed (appendix 1)?

So we can continue our assessment of the applications, we would appreciate your responses to these queries, and any comments you wish to make in relation to the submissions as soon as possible.

Please don't hesitate to contact me on 02 6243 1363 if you have any queries.

Regards

Bronwyn

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