

From: [LAFFAN, David](#)
To: [Smith, Gemma](#); [Hatfield, David](#)
Cc: [LOGUE, Jonathon](#)
Subject: Interim Authorisation in Relation to CSODs Working Together to Manage Medicine Shortages [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Wednesday, 22 February 2023 9:22:16 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Hi David, Gemma,

Further to the meeting held with the Department on Monday, 20 February 2023, I am writing to provide confirmation that the Department supports an interim authorisation from the ACCC to support the CSODs in working together to manage medicine shortages.

This arrangement was put in place during the COVID-19 pandemic to assist in mitigating the impact of significant challenges in the international supply chain for medicines. The arrangement has proved effective in maintaining access to essential medicines for Australians.

As the international supply chain for medicines has not yet returned to a pre-pandemic state, there continues to be pressure on the supply of medicines in Australia. One example of this is the current supply challenges relating to antibiotics.

As the supply challenge that led to the introduction of the ACCC authorisation for CSODs to cooperate has not yet been fully resolved, the Department supports the extension of these arrangements, and specifically supports an interim authorisation by the ACCC when the current authorisation expires on 28 February 2023.

If you have any questions or require further information, please contact Jonathon Logue on [REDACTED] or at [REDACTED].

Thanks

David Laffan
Assistant Secretary

[REDACTED]
Pharmacy Branch
Technology Assessment and Access Division
Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care
T: [REDACTED] | M: [REDACTED] | E: [REDACTED]
EA: Teegan Jeffs [REDACTED]
Location: Sirius Building Level 9
GPO Box 9848, Canberra ACT 2601, Australia

The Department of Health acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of Australia and their continued connection to land, sea and community. We pay our respects to all Elders past and present.