

An introduction to health technology, its assessment, and how the public provide input.

Background information for providing consumer views in the Health Technology Assessment process



Australian Government
Department of Health and Aged Care

What will this presentation cover?

1. What are health technologies?
2. What is the Health Technology Assessment (HTA) process?
3. How and when are consumer views collected now?
4. Where can I learn more?

1. What are health technologies?



Every day,
people use
'health technologies'

Health technologies:

- Medicines
- Medical devices
- Vaccines
- Cell and gene therapies
- Screening and diagnostic tests
- Medical services
- ... and more



How does the government decide which health technologies should be:

- Approved for sale in Australia?
- Funded by the government?

GOAL:
to supply the health
technologies that
benefit patients and
the health system

Your views and experiences
of medicines and medical
services are important.

They help to inform the
government funding
decisions of these items.



What views and experiences?

- what daily life is like with/without the medicine/medical service
- what benefits and/or negative effects the medicine/medical service may have on health
- how easy/hard it may be to receive the medicine/medical service, for example:
 - In a big city hospital
 - In your local chemist, or
 - A nurse visiting your home

2. What is the Health Technology Assessment (HTA) process?

The government wants the public to have safe, effective health technologies

The process the government uses to help decide what health technologies are sold in Australia and which of these it should fund is called

‘Health technology assessment’ (HTA)



Health technology assessment involves two main processes – assessment for:

- approval for sale, and
- for funding.

Different groups look after each process.

What can be sold?



What should be funded?

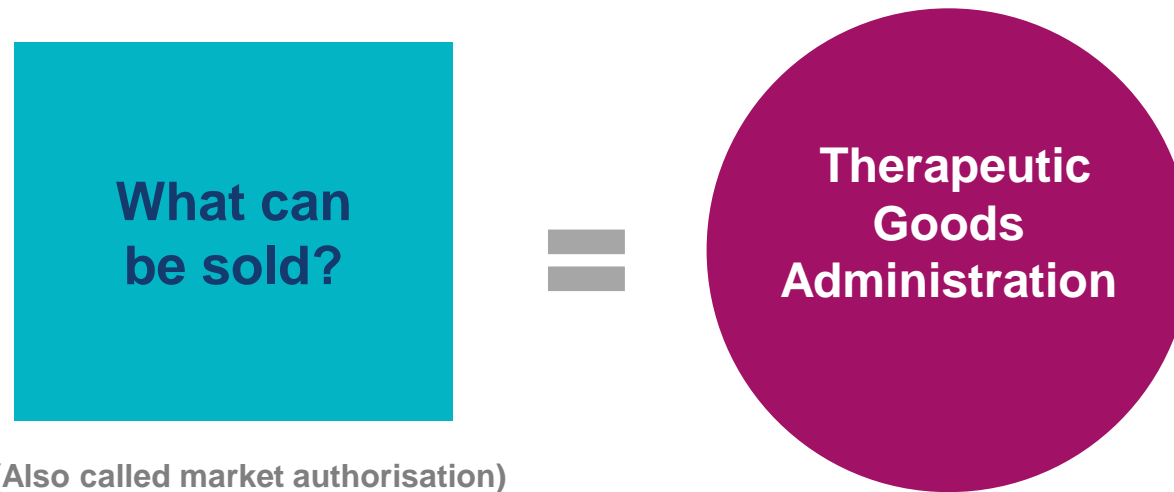


Safe and affordable access

What can be sold?

Health technology products are assessed by the **Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA)**.

The TGA checks that the product is safe and meets appropriate standards.



(Also called market authorisation)

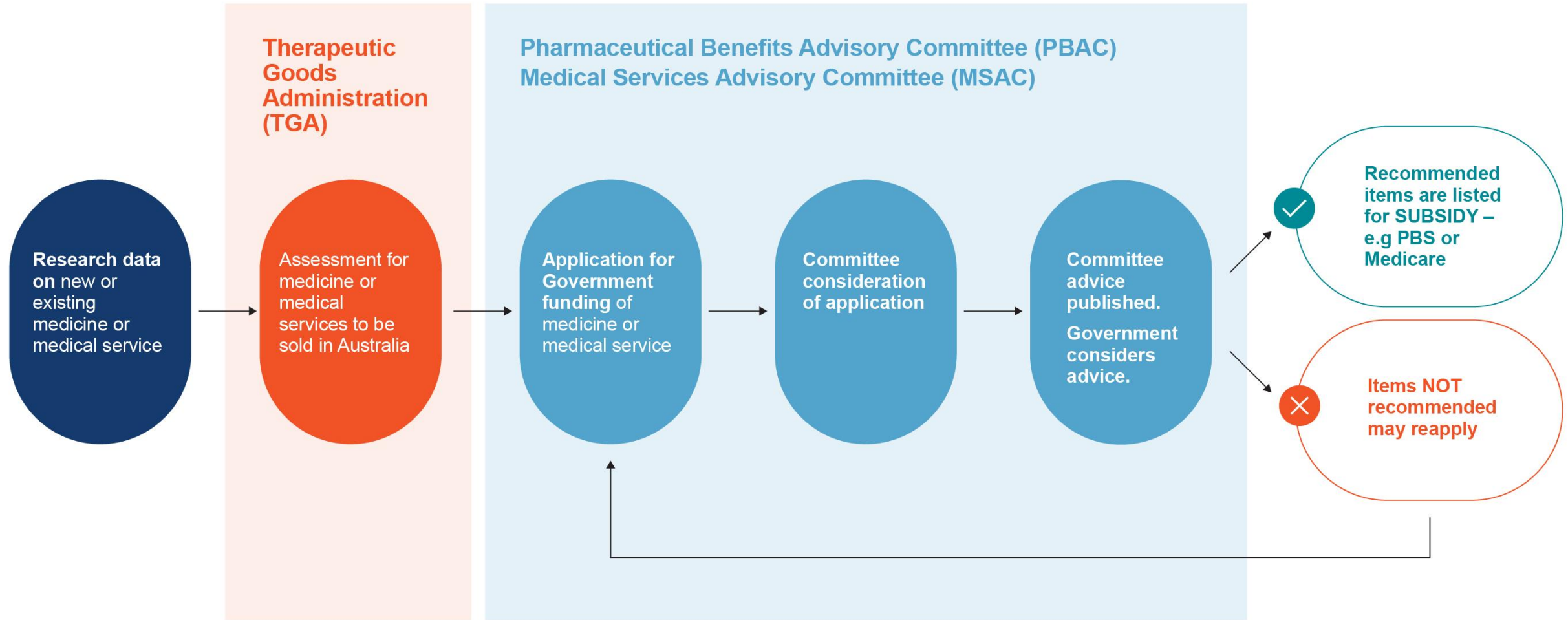
What should be funded?

The government receives advice about this from committees such as the **Pharmaceutical Benefits** and **Medical Services** Advisory Committees.

Funding is via the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (**PBS**) or the Medicare Benefits Schedule (**Medicare**).



The HTA pathway



3. How and when are consumer views collected now?

How are consumer views collected now?

Consumers are asked to answer a **survey** which collects their views and experiences on a particular health technology.

This information is then provided to the HTA committee advising the Government on subsidy (funding) the product.



[Learn more about the consumer views survey](#)



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How are consumer views collected during HTA now?



4. Where can I learn more?



Learn more about HTA

About HTA

 [Visit the Department of Health and Aged Care website for more information on HTA](#)

About consumer views in HTA process

 [Visit the Office of Health Technology Assessment \(OHTA\) Consultation Hub website](#)

 [Contact the OHTA Consumer Evidence and Engagement Unit here](#)



Thank you.

For your interest in the health technology assessment process



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