

Conversations for Change Consultation Survey

Overview

The views and experiences of patients (consumers) and their carers on medicines and medical services and products play an important part in informing advice to the Australian Government on what should be provided.

A process called [health technology assessment](#) (HTA) is used to inform this advice and includes consideration of the views and experiences of patients and carers.

The Office of Health Technology Assessment's (OHTA) Consumer Evidence and Engagement Unit (CEEU) is looking at how to improve the way we communicate and engage with, and include, consumers and carers in HTA.

The CEEU will be conducting a series of community consultations during 2022 under the name '*Conversations for Change*'.

You can watch the presentation on [Conversations for Change](#) to find out more information.

About this survey

This survey is the first "*Conversations for Change*" consultation activity and asks about **when** and **how** the consumer view could be included in the HTA process and **what** is needed for this to happen.

The survey is open to all including:

- Individuals interested in accessing specific medicines or medical services for themselves or someone they care for;
- Healthcare professionals using or providing medicines or medical services;
- Other individuals or organisations interested in HTA processes.

The survey asks five questions and there is also an opportunity to add other comments. **You can choose to answer one or all the questions.** You can **answer the questions online or upload a file.**

You can save and come back at any time to your response before the consultation close date. Once you have submitted, a copy of your submission will be emailed to the contact email address provided.

Resources and support

If you are not familiar with how medicines and medical services and products become funded, you might like to review the following presentation. The slides from this presentation are also available to be downloaded.

[An Introduction to Health Technology Assessment - Presentation](#)

If you are unable to or have difficulty responding online, please email HTAconsumerengagement@health.gov.au

How will this information be used?

Findings from the survey will be collated and analysed to inform further consultations this year with consumers and health consumer and patient organisations.

Personal information will not be included in these summaries and is collected should any information need to be verified or questions arise that need further clarification.

A formal report will also be produced at the conclusion of the Conversations for Change activities.

Privacy Information

Your personal information is protected by law, including the *Privacy Act 1988* (Privacy Act) and the Australian Privacy Principles (APPs), and is being collected by the Department, via Citizen Space, for the purposes of conducting this consultation process. The Department will collect your personal information at the time that you provide a submission.

To protect privacy, do not include identifying personal or sensitive information about another individual (third party).

Further information about privacy

You can access more information about the way in which the Department will manage your personal information, including our privacy policy, at www.health.gov.au/resources/publications/privacy-policy. You can obtain a copy of the Department's privacy policy by contacting the Department using the contact details set out below. The Department's privacy policy contains information about:

- how you may access the personal information the Department holds about you and how you can seek correction of it; and
- how you may complain about a breach of
 - the APPs; or
 - a registered APP code that binds the Department; and
- how the Department will deal with such a complaint.

You can contact the Department by telephone on (02) 6289 1555 or freecall 1800 020 103 or by using the online enquiries form at www.health.gov.au

Consent to publish response (submission)

You can choose whether you would like your response to this survey to be made available on the Department's consultation website. If you consent, the Department may, at its discretion, publish part, or all of your response. If you consent the Department may also identify you and/or your organisation as the author.

Please note that your email address will not be published and responses may be moderated to remove content that is inappropriate/offensive, or contains sensitive information.

Do you consent to the submission being made by you being published on the Department's website and accessible to the public, including persons overseas:

(Required)

Please select only one item

- I do not consent to the submission made by me being published on the Department's website
- I consent to my submission being published including both my name and organisation's name (if relevant)
- I consent to my submission being published, without my name but with my organisation's name (if relevant)
- I consent to my submission being published, without my name or my organisation's name

Acknowledgement

By making a submission, I acknowledge that:

- I understand that the giving of my consent is entirely voluntary
- I am over the age of 18 years
- I understand that copyright in the content of my submission will vest in the Commonwealth of Australia
- Consent to the Department collecting the information requested in Citizen Space about me, including any sensitive information, for the purposes indicated above.
- Where relevant, I have obtained the consent of any individuals whose personal information is included in my submission, to the Department collecting this information for the purposes outlined in this notice
- I understand that, where I have provided consent to my submission being published, the Department has complete discretion as to whether my submission, in full or part, will be published.

(Required)

Please select only one item

- I acknowledge the above.

Your Details

The below details are asked should we need to contact you about your response (submission). If you provide your email address you will also receive a copy of your response.

What is your name?

(Required)

What is your email address?

(Required)

What is your main area of interest?

(Required)

Please select only one item

- Medicines and vaccines
- Medical services, procedures and devices
- Both

Please indicate the group that best represents you and/or your organisation:

(Required)

Please select only one item

- Individual patient or carer or member of a health consumer and patient organisations
- Member of the public with an interest in medicines or medical services
- Clinical or health professional/organisation
- Pharmaceutical sector
- Government
- Consultancy
- Medical Technology sector
- Academic/researcher
- Other (please specify)

Please comment if 'Other' ticked or further explanation is required

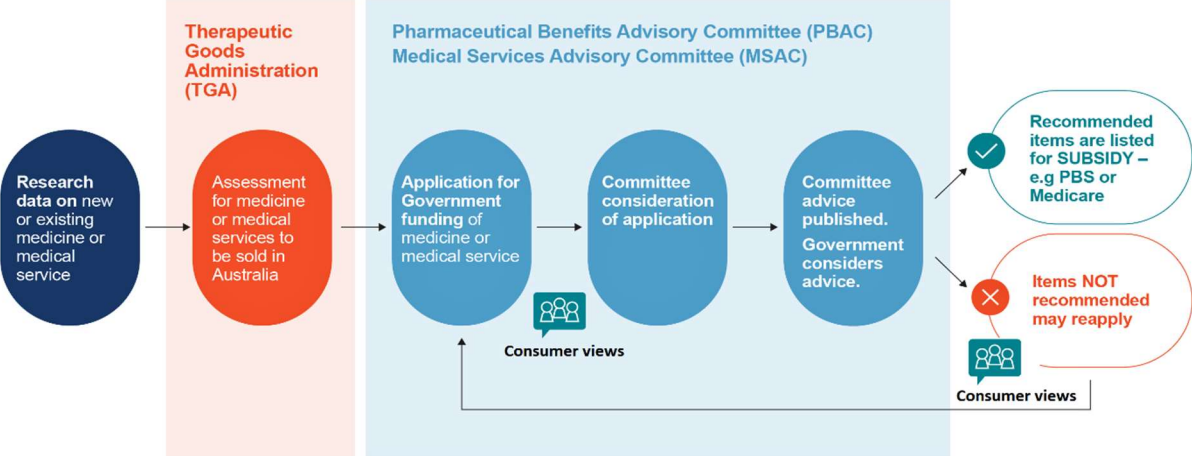
If you are providing input on behalf of a group/organisation, please provide the name of your group/organisation:

The Survey

There are currently opportunities for consumer views and experiences to be considered at various places along the health technology assessment (HTA) pathway. However, consumer input most commonly occurs after a funding application has been made and/or if application has not been recommended (see figure below).

There have been suggestions to work towards having the consumer voice 'upfront' or earlier in the health technology assessment process. We are interested to know where you think consumers should be involved and what you think of the current process.

Simplified pathway of the HTA process



Please tell us what you like about the current opportunities for consumer input into the HTA process

Please tell us where you consider consumer input could be increased in the process? Why do you think this will improve the current system?

The Survey continued

How should the consumer voice be included and supported?

Feedback has been received over the past few years from consumers on different ways the current process can be changed to improve the way we communicate and include the view and experiences of consumers in the HTA process.

Below are some of these past suggestions:

More active participation in process <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Meetings with consumers and others involved in the process when an application is submitted• Attend and participate in advisory/decision making committee meetings• Establish new consumer advisory committees in process	More documentation on consumer input in applications <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Collect or co-ordinate the collection of lived experience• All applications to state how consumers have been involved in the development of the health technology• Show evidence that patient relevant outcomes have been considered
More information on HTA processes <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Automatic notification when a health technology of interest is being assessed by a HTA committee• Workshops and webinars on HTA processes• Seeing other consumer input received for an application	More support to prepare input <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Have easy to understand summary versions of the applications• People and information to guide consumers how best to use their lived experience in HTA• Sharing of what input was valuable and providing suggestions for future input

Please tell us how you think the consumer can be better involved and supported in the HTA process.

What do you think is the most important? (from the above suggestions or other ideas)

Further comments and information

Do you have any further comments you would like to make?

UPLOAD A FILE: If you would like to upload a file with your responses to the above questions, please do so below.

Please attach a copy of any documents you wish to include to this printout.

Multiple file types are acceptable. If your file is larger than 25Mb, please send an email to HTAconsumerengagement@health.gov.au to discuss options for submitting the file.

FURTHER INFORMATION:

All responses received will be summarised to inform further consultations during 2022

Would you like to be notified when a summary of responses is available?

Please select only one item

- Yes I would like to be notified

Topics from the survey will be discussed at the HTA 'Conversations for Change' Consumer Symposium on the 18 and 19 October 2022.



This is a free virtual event and [registrations are now open](#) for individual patients, carers or members of health consumer or patient organisations.