

## **Generic Medicines Working Group**

### **Biosimilar Policy Subgroup**

**Thursday 15 November 2018**

#### **Communique**

The jointly represented Biosimilar Policy Subgroup of the Access to Medicines Working Group and Generic Medicines Working Group met on 15 November 2018. Attendees included representatives from the Generic and Biosimilar Medicines Association (GBMA), Medicines Australia, Industry and the Department of Health (the Department).

Members discussed generic and biosimilar uptake driver policies, in particular updates where provided on the 2018-19 Budget announcement concerning e-prescribing and software changes for Active Ingredient Prescribing which supports what is included in the 2017 Compact with GBMA and the Strategic Agreement with Medicines Australia.

Members also discussed the Budget 2018-19 announcement which provided funding under the *'Improving Access to Medicines – Strengthening the Quality Use of Healthcare Services'* measure to develop and deliver targeted education activities to support the appropriate use of immunoglobulin products and Biologic Disease-Modifying Anti-rheumatic drugs (bDMARDs)

The GBMA provided members with an update on the progress of the Biosimilar Education Grant which they were awarded earlier this year.

The next meeting of the Biosimilar Policy Subgroup will be scheduled in consultation with members.