

To whom it may concern

Thank you for providing the National Medicines Policy Committee (the Committee) with the opportunity to comment on the **Review of Anticoagulation Therapies in Atrial Fibrillation**. The Committee is fully supportive of the expertise on the panel and the terms of reference for this Review.

Overall, the Committee is confident the panel is well placed to consider this matter and make appropriate recommendations. With the chairmanship of Emeritus Professor Lloyd Sansom and other informed members, the issues related to NMP and particularly QUM are well covered.

One particular comment the Committee would like to offer is about the consideration of the costs to the consumer inherent in maintaining warfarin use when a shift to the new medicine may be possible. These include the time and financial costs of regular INR testing (including travel, not just the cost of the test, and the "stress cost" for consumers maintaining their correct warfarin dose to avoid bleeds). There are also the costs borne by the consumer should they opt for point of care or home based INR testing, which is a cost shifted from the Government to consumers to minimise the disruptive aspects of warfarin use.

Thank you again for the opportunity to provide comment. The Committee looks forward to seeing the outcomes from this process.

Kind regards

NMP Committee Secretariat on behalf of
Professor Andrew McLachlan
Chair, NMP Committee