



MEDICAL ONCOLOGY GROUP OF AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED

A.B.N 94 601 175 669

Monday 14 September 2015

Professor Andrew Wilson
Chair, Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee
GPO Box 9848
Canberra ACT 2601

Dear Professor Wilson,

Re: Pharmaceutical Benefit Advisory Committee (PBAC) Guidelines Review

I am writing on behalf of the Medical Oncology Group of Australia Incorporated, the peak professional body for Australian medical oncologists and the medical oncology profession to provide comments in relation to the **Pharmaceutical Benefit Advisory Committee (PBAC) Guidelines Review**.

Having assessed the Review items the Association wishes to provide the following comments for your consideration, The Association:

- Strongly supports the inclusion of mechanisms in the PBAC Guidelines that allow use of earlier trial data or surrogate endpoints to obtain funding on managed entry schemes and/or risk sharing arrangements while waiting for mature data which may require a change in listing at a later date.
- Strongly supports the need for changes to the PBAC Guidelines that will facilitate the priority and fast-track assessment and funding for true breakthrough medicines that address unmet clinical needs.
- Recommends that the PBAC Guidelines timeframes (i.e. 17-18 weeks pre meeting) for major submissions may be reduced or the PBAC may need to consider meeting more frequently to address the rapid progression of some agents from discovery through to standard of care.
- Recommends that the PBAC Guidelines include a facility to engage “up-front” with industry about their assessment requirements and the feasibility of Australian industry to meet those requirements.
- Is supportive of the PBAC exploring additional methods of determining the value of cancer medicines in addition to cost-effectiveness and incorporating these methods into future guidelines.

Our Association thank you for this opportunity to contribute to the review process and looks forward to learning of the outcomes.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Rosemary A. Harrup', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Associate Professor Rosemary A. Harrup
Chair
Medical Oncology Group of Australia
145 Macquarie Street
Sydney NSW 2000