

12 November 2020

Therapeutic Goods Administration  
Department of Health  
GPO Box 9848  
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Via email: [medicines.scheduling@health.gov.au](mailto:medicines.scheduling@health.gov.au)

Dear Chair,

**Re: Submission by Lung Foundation Australia and Minderoo Foundation in response to the interim decision to amend the Poisons Standard (nicotine) (23 September 2020)**

Asthma Australia endorses the submission by Lung Foundation Australia and Minderoo Foundation to the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) in response to its interim decision to amend the Poisons Standard for nicotine.

Asthma Australia shares the concerns detailed in the submission around the health impacts of nicotine-containing e-cigarettes. We recognise the lack of reliable evidence that e-cigarettes are an effective smoking cessation aid.

Asthma Australia shares the view that scheduling nicotine products, including e-cigarettes, as prescription-only medicines provides implicit approval that they are therapeutic products. This is concerning given no manufacturers have made applications to the TGA to demonstrate the effectiveness of their products or test their safety and efficacy.

For these reasons, Asthma Australia supports the conclusion reached by Lung Foundation Australia and Minderoo Foundation that “[a]ll nicotine products prescribed as smoking cessation devices must be approved for safety and efficacy and listed on the Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods (ARTG)”. We support their calls for effective consultation with all stakeholders, including consumers, before any changes to nicotine scheduling are made law, along with a review of emerging evidence.

If you require any further information, please contact [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely,



**Asthma Australia**