Response ID BHLF-TKS9-WDQ8-F

Submitted to Consultation: Improved sharing of information about medical devices | Proposed amendments relating to transparency of disruptions to supply of a medical device
Submitted on 2026-02-26 11:25:24

Introduction

About you

What is your name?:
Mainul Haque OAM

What is your email address?:
[redacted]

Are you responding as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?

I am responding as an individual

If you are responding on behalf of an organisation, what is the name of the organisation that you represent?

Please enter your organisation name:

Select one (or more if applicable) of the stakeholder groups that best describes you or your organisation:

Other (please specify below)

Specify 'Other' in the box below:
Community Leader and former ACT Multicultural Ambassador

Privacy and Personal Information

I CONSENT: I am okay for my response, name and organisation's name to be published.

Have you provided consent but there are particular questions you don't want us to publish?:

The TGA is aware that Artificial Intelligence (AI) may be used to assist in preparing responses to this consultation. It is a respondent's responsibility to ensure the accuracy of their response.

I acknowledge that I am responsible for reviewing and confirming the accuracy and completeness of my submission, accepting full responsibility for its content. I may have used AI in preparing my response; where AI has been used, I confirm that the content has been reviewed and confirmed by me.

Questions 1 and 2

1 Do you agree that the TGA should release information about medical devices for the purpose of managing shortages or disruptions to supply?

Yes

a. Please explain your answer (optional):

Ensuring greater transparency about actual or potential disruptions to medical device supply is essential for consumers, healthcare providers, carers, and community organisations to plan and respond effectively. Public awareness of supply disruptions supports patient safety, informed decision-making, and trust in the regulatory system.

Transparency also aligns with the broader intent of the TGA's Action Plan for Medical Devices, which aims to provide more information to patients about the devices they use.

2 Should the information be released publicly or be limited to specific stakeholders only?

Not Answered

a. Please explain your answer (optional):

I support the TGA making relevant information publicly available in general terms, similar to the medicine shortage reporting system. This allows consumers (especially those with chronic conditions or frequent device use) to make informed choices, seek alternatives, and proactively engage with healthcare providers when supply issues arise.

At the same time, it may be appropriate to share more technical or commercially sensitive data directly with relevant stakeholders (such as health

professionals, hospitals, distributors) to support rapid response and contingency planning.

Public disclosure does not need to comprise proprietary or confidential commercial details, but it should highlight key information such as anticipated duration of disruption, affected device categories, and recommended alternatives where possible.

Questions 3 and 4

3 If we do not make information about disruptions to supply of a medical device publicly available, do you agree that information about supply disruptions should be released to the stakeholders outlined above?

Not Answered

a. Please explain your answer (optional) :

4 Do you have any concerns regarding the proposal for releasing information about disruptions to supply for a medical device?

Not Answered

a. Please explain your answer (optional):

Questions 5, 6 and 7

5 Do you agree it is appropriate for the TGA to release the information identified above in the event of a disruption to supply of a medical device?

Not Answered

a. Please explain your answer (optional):

Key information should include:

Device identity — clear name, description, and intended use.

Nature of disruption — whether it's an anticipated shortage, unexpected interruption, or discontinuation.

Expected timeframe — short-term interruption vs long-term supply issue.

Impact scope — geographical, clinical or patient group implications.

Recommended actions — information on alternative devices, if available, or links to clinical guidance.

Providing this information empowers consumers and healthcare professionals to make timely, safe decisions and reduces uncertainty about access to critical devices.

6 Should sponsors of medical devices impacted by disruption to supply be provided with a notice of intent and offered an opportunity to comment on the release of the information?

Yes

a. Please explain your answer (optional):

Response: Yes, with safeguards.

Sponsors should be notified and provided with the opportunity to comment or verify information prior to public release, especially where factual accuracy, quality assurance, and patient safety considerations are concerned. This encourages constructive cooperation between regulators and sponsors and helps prevent dissemination of incorrect information.

That said, urgent public health concerns should take precedence; time-critical disclosures should not be delayed unduly if imminent risks to patients or consumers exist.

7 Please provide any further feedback or comments you have regarding proposals to collect and share information about disruption to supply of a medical device.

Please provide any further feedback in this field.:

From a consumer and community perspective, especially for individuals from multicultural or non-English speaking backgrounds, the value of transparent, accessible information cannot be overstated. Communication should also consider plain-language summaries and, where possible, multi-lingual supports, so that people from diverse linguistic backgrounds can understand the implications of supply disruptions.

For many consumers, particularly older people or those managing chronic conditions, disruption to a familiar device can lead to stress, delays in care, and

potentially poorer health outcomes. Transparent information helps reduce anxiety and enables people to seek alternatives in consultation with healthcare providers.

I strongly support the TGA's initiative to improve transparency about medical device supply disruptions. Public availability of information — supported by targeted stakeholder communication — will enhance consumer confidence, promote equitable access to healthcare, and support better health outcomes, particularly for vulnerable populations.