

Response ID ANON-TKS9-WDUU-G

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 2026-02-17 09:57:46

Introduction

About you

What is your name?:

[REDACTED]

What is your email address?:

[REDACTED]

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

I am responding on behalf of an organisation. This means I am authorised by the organisation to convey its views, and I am only providing those views in the response.

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

Please enter your organisation name:

The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP)

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

Health professional or practitioner or peak body

Specify 'Other' in the box below:

Privacy and Personal Information

I CONSENT: I am okay for my response and organisation's name to be published, but not my name.

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):

Yes. The RACGP supports the TGA releasing this information. It is important for both clinicians and consumers to be aware of any disruptions to the supply of relevant medical devices and alternatives that are available for use.

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

Yes

a. Please explain your answer (optional):

Yes, released publicly. The RACGP does not believe there is a good reason to withhold information about an actual or anticipated disruption to the supply of a medical device. Clinicians and other stakeholders should be alerted to any disruptions, and the information should be publicly available online for consumers.

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?

Yes

a. Please explain your answer (optional) :

The RACGP believes this is a reasonable list of stakeholders to inform of medical device supply disruptions.

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

Yes

a. Please explain your answer (optional):

While we agree that information about disruptions to supply of medical devices should be communicated to the stakeholders listed above, we believe the information should also be publicly available to consumers.

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?

No

a. Please explain your answer (optional):

While we agree that the proposed information is appropriate, we believe that all of the proposed information should be publicly available. It is not clear why any of the information would not be made public.

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):

This is a reasonable inclusion to allow sponsors to prepare themselves to offer alternative solutions to affected parties.

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.:

The RACGP is supportive of the TGA's proposed changes to improve sharing of information regarding disruptions to the supply of medical devices. We do not believe it is reasonable to withhold such information from a patient care perspective.

Additionally, when information is published publicly, we suggest providing additional information for affected consumers where possible. This information could include guidance on what steps the consumer can take to plan ahead or minimise issues caused by the supply disturbance.