

Aide-Mémoire

Meeting with Consumer Healthcare Products Association NZ (CHPNZ)

Date due to MO:	10 April 2024	Action required by:	N/A
Security level:	IN CONFIDENCE	Health Report number:	H2024038944
To:	Hon Casey Costello, Associate Minister of Health		
Copy to:	Hon Shane Reti, Minister of Health, Hon David Seymour, Associate Minister of Health		
Consulted:	Health New Zealand: <input type="checkbox"/> Māori Health Authority: <input type="checkbox"/>		

Contact for telephone discussion

Name	Position	Telephone
John McGrath	Director, Priority Projects Strategy Policy and Legislation	s 9(2)(a)
Tim Vines	Manager, Therapeutics Strategy Policy and Legislation	s 9(2)(a)

Aide-Mémoire

Meeting with Consumer Healthcare Products Association NZ (CHPNZ)

Date due: 10 April 2024

To: Hon Casey Costello, Associate Minister of Health

Security level: IN CONFIDENCE **Health Report number:** H2024038944

Details of meeting: 11 April 2024
10:00 am

At your office


Purpose of meeting/proposal: You are meeting with representatives of Consumer Healthcare Products Association NZ (CHPNZ), who may wish to discuss:

- the Therapeutic Products Act (TPA) repeal and future work
- their Briefing to the Incoming Minister (BIM), which you have received
- self-care initiatives
- CHPNZ's work to support coalition government policies
- a request for quarterly meetings going forward.

Comments

Meeting with CHPNZ

- CHPNZ is an industry organisation whose members make and sell over-the-counter (OTC) medicines (those that can be purchased without a prescription), natural health products, and dietary supplements.
- You are meeting with Mr Scott Milne, Executive Director, and Mr Abs Saadi, Chair of CHPNZ. Lisa-Marie Richan, Partner, Converge Communications & Marketing Ltd will be attending in support of CHPNZ.
- John McGrath, Director, Priority Projects, Chris James, Group Manager, Medsafe, and Tim Vines, Manager, Therapeutics will be the Ministry representatives in attendance.
- This aide-mémoire discloses all relevant information.



John McGrath
Director, Priority Projects
Strategy Policy and Legislation

Purpose

1. This aide-mémoire provides information in relation to your meeting with CHPNZ on 11 April 2024.
2. Information about the meeting is included in **Appendix 1**. A short biography of CHPNZ attendees is included in **Appendix 2**.
3. A copy of CHPNZ's BIM 2023 is included in **Appendix 3**.

Background and context

4. CHPNZ is New Zealand's peak body membership organisation for suppliers of OTC medicines, natural health products, and dietary supplements. Their members are responsible for an estimated 80% of the total sales of these products in New Zealand, worth approximately half a billion dollars per year.
5. Its website notes that "Consumer Healthcare Products NZ is the voice of the consumer self-care industry. They represent manufacturers and distributors of OTC healthcare products. These products help New Zealanders look after their own and their families' health through informed, responsible self-medication."¹

TPA Repeal and Future work

6. CHPNZ supported the intentions of the TPA but had concerns about Medsafe's resourcing and responsibility to oversee natural health products in the local market.
7. CHPNZ wishes to assist the government as it works through a replacement of the TPA.

BIM and CHPNZ commentary on the current regulation of Medicines

8. CHPNZ has concerns that Medsafe performance does not meet target timeframes, and that there is a backlog of OTC medicine applications.
9. On 31 January 2024, CHPNZ met with Associate Minister of Health, the Hon David Seymour, to discuss these issues. Minister Seymour holds delegations for Medsafe and Pharmac. Medsafe has engaged with CHPNZ over some outdated statements in their BIM regarding performance and harmonisation.

Self-Care initiatives

10. CHPNZ defines self-care as the capacity for individuals to find and use information and services to make effective decisions for health and wellbeing. This includes the use of advice and OTC medicines to treat minor ailments.
11. CHPNZ plays a leading role in helping plan wider global health literacy as part of its participation in the Global Self-Care Federation.
12. CHPNZ proposes an opportunity for Government involvement in wider proactive promotion of self-care for minor ailments to relieve pressure on primary healthcare and to improve access to the best and safest available medicines. They have not provided the details of what they would require from the Government for these initiatives.

¹ [Who we are \(chp.org.nz\)](https://www.chp.org.nz)

CHPNZ's work to support coalition government policies


13. CHPNZ advocates for streamlining Medsafe approval processes through harmonisation of New Zealand and Australian regulatory requirements.
14. Medsafe is engaging with CHPNZ in the reintroduction of pseudoephedrine as an OTC medicine.
15. These topics are best raised with Associate Minister of Health, the Hon David Seymour, as they fall within his delegations.

Request for quarterly meetings

16. CHPNZ has requested quarterly meetings with you going forward. We recommend against this. CHPNZ already has regular meetings with Chris James from Medsafe, which is appropriate as most of their issues and concerns are regulatory. Similarly, CHPNZ's concerns about regulatory performance are best raised with the Minister responsible for Medsafe, the Hon David Seymour.

Talking points

s 9(2)(g)(i)







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Appendix 1: About the meeting

Purpose	This aide-mémoire provides you with information to support a meeting with CHPNZ
Meeting details	Date: 11 April 2024 Time: 10:00 am Venue: At your office
Attendees	Scott Milne, Executive Director, CHPNZ Abs Saadi, Chair of CHPNZ Lisa-Marie Richan, Government, Regulatory & Public Affairs, Convergence Communications & Marketing Ltd
Organisation	CHPNZ
Ministry representatives	John McGrath Director, Priority Projects, Strategy Policy and Legislation Tim Vines Manager, Therapeutics, Strategy Policy and Legislation Chris James Group Manager, Medsafe
Other	N/A

Appendix 2: Biographies of attendees

Scott Milne, Executive Director	
	<p>Mr Scott Milne has been Executive Director at Consumer Healthcare Products NZ since 2016.</p> <p>His online presence shows that Scott has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• previously worked as a community pharmacist for 25 years,• been a member of the institute of directors since Jan 2010,• sat on several other boards such as being board member of Auckland Grammar school (9 years) and currently the Chairperson of the Orakei Local Board.• is involved with a number of charitable organisations,• served as an Auckland City Councillor for 6 years.
Abs Saadi, Chair of CHPNZ	
	<p>Mr Abs Saadi has been on the board of Consumer Healthcare Products for 5 years and as Chairperson since Feb 2023.</p> <p>Abs has been Country Head, New Zealand Consumer Health at Bayer Pharmaceuticals since Jan 2019, having been with the company since 2015.</p> <p>His online presence shows that Abs' has a background as an Account Manager and in sales at a number of companies, pharmaceutical and others.</p>
Lisa-Marie Richan, Partner, Government, Regulatory and Public Affairs, Convergence Communications & Marketing Ltd	
	<p>Lisa-Marie Richan is a Partner at Converge Communications & Marketing Ltd.</p> <p>Lisa-Marie provides strategic counsel, issues, government, media and crisis management to a number of local and international companies including CHPNZ.</p> <p>Lisa-Marie is attending this meeting in support of CHPNZ.</p>

Appendix 3: CHPNZ BIM 2023

This document is included as a separate file.

Appendix 3 is withheld in full as the document is owned by Consumer Healthcare Products Association NZ.

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