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Australian Government
Department of Health and Ageing
Therapeutic Goods Administration

Deborah I
Heather
5/2/09

Mr Ian Chalmers
Chief Executive
Medicines Australia
16 Napier St
Deakin
ACT 2600

Re: Membership of the Medicines Australia Code of Conduct Committee

Dear Mr Chalmers,

In your letter of 3 September 2008 to the Minister for Health and Ageing, the Hon Nicola Roxon MP, you advised that Medicines Australia is embarking on a triennial review of its Code of Conduct and invited the Minister to make a submission. On behalf of the Minister, Mr David Learmonth made a submission to you in his letter of 5 November 2008.

Further to Mr Learmonth's letter, I draw your attention to the following matters under section 11.2 of the Code - Membership of the Code Committee:

1. Under the heading of 'Full Membership', the Code states: *One representative of the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA)*. The TGA would prefer that the Code refer to the TGA representative as an 'Observer', rather than a Full Member.
2. The Explanatory notes for the TGA representative state: *representative with medical/pharmaceutical qualifications nominated by the Therapeutic Goods Administration*. As TGA's most productive contribution/benefit to this committee would be in the area of therapeutics goods promotion more broadly, rather than in more technical medical/pharmaceutical areas, the TGA would prefer the explanatory notes to simply state "nominated by the Therapeutic Goods Administration".

I would appreciate the above matters being considered during Medicines Australia's review of the Code.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Rohan Hammett
National Manager
3 February 2009