

26 August 2010

Dr John Donohoe
A/g Head, Office of Prescription Medicines
Therapeutic Goods Administration
PO Box 100
Woden
ACT 2606

Dear Dr Donohoe,

Re: Controls on the supply and prescription of clozapine

I am writing to follow up correspondence that you have previously had with a Fellow of the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists (RANZCP), Dr Les Drew, regarding review of the controls on the supply and prescription of clozapine. Dr Drew has provided copies of this correspondence to the RANZCP.

I note that in your most recent letter to Dr Drew of 23 December 2009 you advise that the Therapeutic Good Administration has initiated research into the monitoring requirements for patients prescribed clozapine in countries with developed regulatory systems. You further advise that this research will inform a decision on whether to progress a review of clozapine patient monitoring.

The supply of clozapine is an important issue for psychiatric care in Australia and, as such, the RANZCP would be interested in the outcome of your research into monitoring requirements in other countries. The RANZCP would further be interested to find out, based on these findings, whether or not a review into monitoring will be undertaken.

I would be grateful if you could advise when this information may be available.

If you have any queries in regard to this matter please contact me via teri.snowdon@ranzcp.org or 03 9601 4918

Yours sincerely



Ms Teri Snowdon
Director, Policy