



Co-design of an Enhanced Consumer Engagement Process Working Group

Communique – Co-design Workshop #2 – 29 January 2024

The Co-design Working Group (CWG) of the Enhanced Consumer Engagement Process participated in an online workshop on 29 January 2024. The workshop was run by independent facilitators from the Methods and Implementation Support for Clinical and Health (MISCH) Research Hub, Nossal Institute for Global Health, The University of Melbourne, who have been engaged to develop and implement the project.

What did the Working Group discuss?

Chair's update

The Chair and two CWG members met with the HTA Policy and Methods Review (HTA Review) Reference Committee on 14 December 2023. The Chair noted the Reference Committee's interest in the co-design work and the synergies which exist between these two elements within the 2022-2027 [Strategic Agreement](#) between the Commonwealth and Medicines Australia.

The Chair also noted the recent commencement of the HTA Review's Consultation 2 and the associated Options Paper. Led by the Chair, CWG members discussed elements within the Options Paper which may serve as enablers to the co-design work. Of note, the "*Transparency, communication, and stakeholder involvement in HTA*" section of the paper strongly aligned with draft recommendations for enhanced consumer engagement being developed by the CWG. It was agreed that the CWG would provide a submission to the HTA Review consultation to reflect this alignment.

Review of documents arising from Workshop #1

Prior to the workshop, CWG members reviewed and provided comment on a draft consultation document developed by the independent facilitators, from outcomes of the CWG Workshop #1 (15 and 16 November 2023). Items from this document requiring further consideration by members were discussed and agreed upon.

CWG members also considered and agreed on the presentation of the draft recommendations for consultation. This was noted as important, to ensure context is provided and to promote understanding for stakeholders' participation in the consultation. Draft documents of the agreed content and formatting of the consultation document, and the formatted survey questions, will be prepared by the independent facilitator. Members will review these items prior to the next CWG meeting.

Consultation planning

Members noted the importance of transparency of the co-design work being undertaken and the intent for consultation to include a broad range of stakeholders. It was agreed that a consultation plan be developed which included communication materials and identification of stakeholder groups for inclusion in the planned consultation. Draft communication materials will be prepared and circulated to members for their review prior to the next CWG meeting.

A revised CWG work schedule was agreed, to align with the actions and activities required to finalise and deploy the consultation, review consultation feedback, and develop recommendations for an Enhanced Consumer Engagement Process Report, for consideration by the Minister for Health and Aged Care.

Meeting close

The independent facilitator noted that an Actions Log would be circulated to CWG members post-meeting, reflecting the agreed outcomes and next steps. Draft materials will be circulated for members to review in preparation for the next CWG workshop, to be held on 22 February 2024.