Natural Therapies Review Expert Advisory Panel

Meeting Outcomes

10 December 2024

On 10 December 2024, the [Natural Therapies Review Expert Advisory Panel](https://health.govcms.gov.au/committees-and-groups/natural-therapies-review-expert-advisory-panel) (NTREAP) held its thirteenth, and final, meeting by videoconference.

The following is a summary of the outcomes arising from the meeting.

# Progress and timing of the Review

## Final evidence evaluations

* All evidence evaluations have been endorsed as final by the NTWC, with some subject to minor clarifications to wording and formatting.
* Final evidence evaluations for Alexander Technique, Bowen Therapy, Buteyko, Feldenkrais, kinesiology, naturopathy Review B, reflexology and western herbal medicine are awaiting NHMRC executive clearance.
* Final evidence evaluations completed for Pilates, Rolfing, iridology, shiatsu, tai chi, yoga, naturopathy Review A, aromatherapy and homeopathy.

# Issues considered during the Review

* Members were presented with a summary of substantive issues and outcomes over the period of the Review to support member consideration of the draft Review report:
  + Patient Reported Outcomes Measures (PROMs) and Patient Reported Experience Measures (PREMs)
  + Adjunct Treatment
  + Studies in languages other than English
  + Components of naturopathy for the purposes of the Review
  + Cost effectiveness
  + ‘Intention to treat’ versus ‘Per protocol’
  + Explanation of ‘effectiveness’ and ‘efficacy’
  + ‘Active’ comparators
  + Evidence search dates
  + Effect size, post treatment results and change scores
  + Herb/condition combinations
  + Natural therapies private health insurance reform implementation issues
  + Chronic disease management plans

# Draft chair’s Review report

* Members discussed some of the issues above in the context of providing comments on the draft of Professor Kidd’s Review report.
* Professor Kidd thanked members for their commitment and support for him in leading the Review.