Natural Therapies Review Expert Advisory Panel

Meeting Outcomes

10 December 2024

On 10 December 2024, the <u>Natural Therapies Review Expert Advisory Panel</u> (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
 - o 'Intention to treat' versus 'Per protocol'
 - Explanation of 'effectiveness' and 'efficacy'
 - 'Active' comparators
 - Evidence search dates
 - o 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.