



**The Hon Mark Butler MP**  
**Minister for Health and Aged Care**

Ref No: MS25-000251

Professor Andrew Wilson AO  
Chair  
HTA Review Implementation Advisory Group

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Dear Professor 

Thank you again for agreeing to serve in the role of Chair of the Health Technology Assessment Review Implementation Advisory Group (IAG).

As you know, the Health Technology Assessment Policy and Methods Review (HTA Review) was released in September 2024 and made 50 recommendations across a range of areas. These include improving access to new health technologies, tackling inequity, and making HTA processes simpler and easier for consumers and clinicians to participate in.

No one group can implement reforms in response to the findings and recommendations of the HTA Review Report on its own. Implementation will require the ideas, expertise and commitment of all.

I have established an IAG of broad membership with a diverse mix of representatives from patient groups, clinical practice, industry and government. This diversity of voice ensures all views are heard. It also will support consensus building across stakeholders for the implementation of key reforms to deliver better health outcomes for all Australians.

In line with Australia's National Medicines Policy and the Australian Government's priority to Strengthen Medicare, I ask the IAG prioritise the development of its advice on implementation of recommendations from the HTA Review Report relating to:

1. More equitable access for patients
2. Process changes to support more streamlined HTA
3. Improved stakeholder engagement in HTA

I also ask the IAG consider the expected benefits, responsibilities for, and cost implications of reform implementation in its advice to government. This advice should make a clear case for why additional Commonwealth funding is needed and provide a strong evidence-base for the merits of implementing relevant reforms. This should include consideration of the expected benefits for patients and better service provision for sponsors.

I look forward to receiving the IAG's interim report on progress towards these priorities.

Yours sincerely

  
Mark Butler

 27/01/2025