



Improving Access to Medicines – reducing red tape for business interactions with the Therapeutic Goods Administration

The Australian Government is funding reforms to the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) processes, to significantly reduce red tape for the Australian medicines and medical device industry. Industry will be able to securely interact with the TGA to apply for, track, pay, and manage listings for regulated and subsidised health related products and services electronically in a simpler and more streamlined way. There will be stringent cybersecurity measures for the highly valuable, commercially confidential data submitted by industry to the TGA. Modernising business systems and infrastructure and joining up services will also support medicines and devices getting to patients sooner.

Why is this important?

As at 31 August, there were 94,078 products on the Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods. The TGA receives around 26,000 applications each year. Faster and more efficient decisions on the safety, quality and efficacy of therapeutic goods are important to the health of all Australians. Digital transformation will support better health outcomes through timely and trusted access to medicines and medical devices information. It will mean a significant reduction in red tape and on costs to the medicines and medical devices industry. It will also ensure Australia is well positioned to respond to emerging and new health technologies in the international market.

Who will benefit?

Consumers and health care professionals will have greater confidence in the safety and efficacy of therapeutic goods as a result of increased transparency in regulating medicines and medical devices.

The medicines and medical device industry will benefit through simpler and faster interactions with Government, earlier approvals of medical products, reduced administrative effort, and more timely information and decision-making by the TGA. More than 4,000 businesses engage with the TGA each year.

How much will this cost?

This will cost \$12.0 million from 2020–21 to 2023–24.