



Media Release

CHC Welcomes New TGA Head

Today's appointment of Dr John Skerritt as the National Manager of the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) is welcomed by the Complementary Healthcare Council of Australia (CHC) as a representation by the Department for Health and Ageing (DoHA) of their commitment to the continued growth and improvement of the Industry.

Welcoming the announcement earlier today, the CHC Executive Director, Dr Wendy Morrow, noted that the appointment was a commendable step forward in driving the agenda of the TGA.

“On behalf of the Complementary Medicines Industry, we look forward to continuing the open and mature dialogue which exists between Industry and the TGA, and working closely with Dr Skerritt on implementing appropriate TGA and industry reforms” commented Dr Morrow.

With a PhD in Pharmacology and extensive experience in medical policy, regulation, research, research management, technology application and commercialisation, Dr Skerritt's appointment appears highly appropriate to the direction of the Complementary Medicines Industry. Dr Morrow highlighted the suitability of Dr Skerritt to the role and of his experience in tackling the challenges currently faced by the TGA.

“With the TGA Blueprint document, levels of evidence consultation and other reviews being completed or in varying stages of implementation, Dr Skerritt's background in regulatory reform will stand him in good stead in his new role. In moving forward with the reform agenda we look forward to an improved consultative approach being adopted under his leadership.”

Noting the barriers to growth currently faced by industry around IP reform and clinical trials, Dr Morrow also emphasised that his experience leading technical and commercial collaborations will be advantageous to the Complementary Medicines Industry, increasingly recognised for its evidenced based scientific research.

The CHC would also like to thank Dr Brian Richards, Acting National Manager of the TGA, for his collaboration with Industry during his tenure, noting a desire for the continuation of the strong, effective relationship which has been cultivated in recent years.

For further information on the CHC and our work, visit the [CHC website](http://www.chc.org.au).

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CHC Contacts

Executive Director
Communications and Media Relations

Dr Wendy Morrow	04 0707 2151
Sophie Dimmock	02 6260 4022