
MEDIA RELEASE

Peak body CCA launches Reform Working Group and renews calls for fit-for-purpose regulatory reform of Australia's medicinal cannabis sector

Cannabis Council Australia (CCA) is intensifying its push for structural reform of Australia's medicinal cannabis sector with the launch of its Reform Working Group. This builds on a CCA consultation currently underway on proposed revisions to product labelling requirements under TGO 93 - the first tangible output of CCA's reform agenda.

Quotes:

"The work needed to achieve regulatory reform of medicinal cannabis can't wait," said CCA CEO Lisa Penlington. "The TGA carries broad responsibilities across the entire health system, so it's essential that the sector not only advocates for change, but comes to the table with clear, practical solutions. That's exactly what the Reform Working Group is designed to deliver, and we're pleased to be calling for Expressions of Interest."

In preparation for the Working Group's first meeting, CCA has been examining a range of available data to collate a robust series of medicinal cannabis safety signals, and has noted a recently released analysis of TGA adverse event data.

"We are not seeing that individual data sets are sufficiently robust," Ms Penlington noted. "We've been in contact with the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) about this and will continue that dialogue. This will obviously be a key area of focus for the Reform Working Group."

CCA recognises that regulatory reform requires the sector to lead by example and is committed to doing so.

"We're forming CCA's Reform Working Group to do the work that reform requires. It will comprise cross-sector skills and experience, be transparently governed, collaborative in approach, and will be seeking engagement across the health system," said Ms Penlington.

CCA's reform agenda is structured around three priority areas:

- Product Safety and Quality
- Clinical Governance
- Building the Evidence

The Reform Working Group will also be considering the practical implementation of reform, recognising that proposed changes need not only to be well designed, but practical and financially viable to implement for the sector and regulators. As reflected in CCA's 2026–27

Budget submission, achievable regulatory reform is ultimately the means to a sustainable sector capable of delivering equitable patient access to medicinal cannabis across Australia.

CCA indicated it will be hosting events in Canberra in June to further advance the sector's reform agenda, with more details to follow.

About Cannabis Council Australia

Cannabis Council Australia is the peak body for medicinal cannabis in Australia and represents a growing and diverse group of licensed producers, healthcare providers, pharmacists and healthcare practitioners. Our supporters are committed to working together to ensure safe, affordable, and equitable access to medicinal cannabis for Australian patients. Our priorities are focused on uniting the medicinal cannabis sector under a shared vision of safety, quality and integrity. cannabiscouncil.org.au

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