

Draft Terms of Reference

Review of the Australian Government Rebate on Private Health Insurance for Natural Therapies 2019-20

Natural Therapies Review Expert Advisory Panel

As part of the 'Review of the Australian Government Rebate on Private Health Insurance for Natural Therapies 2019-20' (Natural Therapies Review 2019-20) the Chief Medical Officer, Professor Brendan Murphy, will provide a final report to the Australian Government. The report will provide recommendations on whether to re-include any of the 16 excluded natural therapies as eligible for benefits under complying private health insurance products.

For the purposes of the Natural Therapies Review 2019-20 *excluded natural therapies* are the following 16 therapies:

- a) Alexander technique;
- b) aromatherapy;
- c) Bowen therapy;
- d) Buteyko;
- e) Feldenkrais;
- f) Western herbalism;
- g) homeopathy;
- h) iridology;
- i) kinesiology;
- j) naturopathy;
- k) Pilates;
- l) reflexology;
- m) Rolfing;
- n) shiatsu;
- o) tai chi; and
- p) yoga.

For the 16 excluded natural therapies the Natural Therapies Review Expert Advisory Panel will support the Natural Therapies Review 2019-20 by providing advice to the Chief Medical Officer, Professor Brendan Murphy, on:

- any additional evidence of their clinical effectiveness published since the 2014-15 review or high quality evidence not included in the 2014-15 review to be assessed by the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) including:
 - any evidence identified by Panel members; and
 - any other evidence submitted to Panel members; and
- the reports on the evidence reviews to be provided by NHMRC in two tranches of natural therapies:
 - the first tranche will examine naturopathy, western herbalism, yoga, Tai Chi, Pilates and Shiatsu; and
 - the second tranche will examine Alexander technique, aromatherapy, Bowen therapy, Buteyko, Feldenkrais, homeopathy, iridology, kinesiology, reflexology and Rolfing.