

**Consumers' Health Forum
of Australia**

**Annual Report
2005–2006**

Consumers' Health Forum of Australia

The Consumers' Health Forum of Australia Inc (CHF) is the national voice for health consumers. It helps shape Australia's health system by representing and involving consumers in health policy and program development.

CHF, established in 1987, is an independent member-based non-government organisation for health consumers. It receives funding from the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing, membership and specially-funded projects.

CHF is the only national organisation that can reach nearly 1 million Australians across a wide range of health interests and health system experiences. It provides government and policy makers with a consumer perspective on health issues and balances the view of health care professionals, service providers and industry.

Consumer's Health Forum of Australia

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2005–2006*

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Consumers' Health Forum of Australia Strategic Plan 2005-09

Vision

Consumers shaping health in Australia

Mission

To provide a respected and informed consumer voice on national health issues

We Value

- ❖ A broad and encompassing view of health
- ❖ Diversity in people, cultures and contributions
- ❖ A fair and responsive health system which minimises inequalities
- ❖ Self-determination for health consumers
- ❖ Working in collaboration with health providers
- ❖ Safe, good quality health care
- ❖ Being a representative, responsive and accountable consumer organisation

Goals

1. Strengthen the recognition of CHF as a national leader for health consumers
2. Improve CHF's profile and communications with key stakeholders
3. Strengthen CHF's governance and management

Chairperson's Report

The past year has again been a busy year for the Consumers' Health Forum of Australia (CHF). As in other years there have been a number of new initiatives, we have continued to develop some areas and of course there have been still others where we would have liked to have made more progress than we did. Overall it has been a very positive year with CHF being recognised internationally for the work it has done to promote the importance of consumers being involved in planning, decision making and review.

Recognition of this came through invitations to present at conferences in New Zealand and the USA. The New Zealand meeting was to investigate setting up a national health consumer organisation. The document that was developed to inform the meeting recognised the success of the CHF model. Our Executive Director, Helen Hopkins was invited to and spoke in Washington about consumer experience and involvement in e-health initiatives in Australia.

The 2005 Annual General Meeting saw CHF award its first Honorary Life Memberships. I believe that this shows a coming of age for us as we are able to recognise those who have been instrumental in progressing and promoting the work of the forum and the importance of having consumers involved along with other stakeholders to deliver better outcomes for Australia.

We have worked hard in our priority areas and it is pleasing to report that we have been successful in gaining capacity to work in the area of private health insurance, an area that is very important to many of our members living with long term conditions.

It is also pleasing that the strategy of developing a secretariat that has a broad skills base which enables it to work across project areas rather than maintain a single project focus has led to increased ability to respond to new initiatives and projects.

I was pleased that we had capacity to work with our members on Quality Use of Medicines (QUM) through the Community QUM Project which is funded through our relationship with

the National Prescribing Service. This relationship has continued to develop as we each get to know better how the other works.

CHF has continued to work collaboratively with other key stakeholders. A notable example is our work with Medicines Australia to develop *Working Together – A guide for relationships between consumer organisations and pharmaceutical companies*, which was launched by the Minister for Health and Ageing in late 2005. The guide is a useful tool that took a great deal of work and goodwill to develop. I would like to thank Melanie Cantwell for her work in guiding this effort on our behalf.

CHF has been keen to reach as many of our members as possible and to provide them and other interested stakeholders with information that is relevant and useful to them. We surveyed readers of *HealthUpdate* and had a very positive response. We have made some changes that were suggested in the survey and we continue to publish this and make it available to members in hard copy, electronically and on the website.

As part of our communications strategy we have invested a great deal in our website over the past few years and are constantly reviewing its operation to meet the needs of our members and other stakeholders. It is pleasing to report that we have gone from about 11 000 visits per month to over 30 000 visits per month during the course of the past year.

In finishing, I wish to thank all the people that I have had the pleasure of working with during the past year. The secretariat has done a wonderful job of implementing the policy direction set by the Governing Committee. I would like to thank all current and former members of the secretariat for their hard work and dedication. The Governing Committee has also done an excellent job of guiding the implementation of the Strategic Plan on behalf of the membership. They have worked hard to develop the policies and directions to guide the work of the organisation and implemented a budget and financial procedures review to ensure that the

organisation continues to be able to respond to future needs and challenges.

I wish to pay tribute to our Executive Director, Helen Hopkins who is at the centre of most things within the organisation. She is the conduit from the Governing Committee to the staff and also the first point of contact for most new approaches and activities. Her dedication and hard work have been instrumental in guiding CHF. We are fortunate to have someone with her drive and dedication in this position.

Finally, I want to say a special thank you to Russell McGowan the Vice Chairperson for his support over the past year. Russell has been a great support and had to pick up the role of

acting Chairperson on a number of occasions while I was not available. Russell has decided not to seek re-election to the Governing Committee and I wish him every success. I will miss the advice and counsel he has offered me over the past four years that I have been Chairperson of the organisation.

I commend the *Annual Report* to you. I hope that you get the chance to read through the whole report as it details many areas that I have touched on and others that I have not had the opportunity to.

MITCH MESSER
CHAIRPERSON

CHF Highlights 2005–06

During 2005-06, the Consumers' Health Forum of Australia (CHF) has made significant steps towards our shared vision of consumers shaping health in Australia. CHF has delivered on its mission to provide a respected and informed consumer voice on national health issues. Our work has been planned within the three goals of our Strategic Plan 2005-09 to achieve the objectives we set for the year.

Goal 1 Strengthen the recognition of CHF as a national leader for health consumers

CHF achieved funding for special projects in each of our three priority areas for policy and advocacy during 2005-06:

- Safety and quality in health care
- Optimising health outcomes for people with chronic conditions
- Safe and appropriate use of medicines.

These funded projects provide CHF with opportunities to engage with our members and consult with them face-to-face, so that we are able to work towards the four Goal 1 objectives:

1.1 Engaging in health care reform to optimise consumer outcomes

In June 2005, CHF was funded by the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing to scope a consultative process for consumer input to private health insurance reforms announced ahead of the May 2006 Federal budget. The reforms responded to CHF advocacy during the year, which had highlighted the importance of private health insurance for CHF members with long term health needs. CHF identified that people with chronic conditions were holding on to their private health insurance even when they had trouble affording it, to ensure that they could have access to health care when or where they needed it. These people often found that when they came to use their health cover, there were unexpected gaps to be paid. CHF input about this lack of informed financial consent was confirmed by a government funded survey. Private health insurance figures also confirmed CHF advice about people with high health needs who may be on quite low incomes holding on to private health insurance.

The proposed reforms have the potential to make a real difference in the CHF priority area of health care for people with chronic conditions. They include imperatives for doctors to improve the information they provide about costs when private hospital interventions are planned, an independent source of information for consumers about health insurance products and the possibility for health funds to offer products to cover hospital outreach services and other forms of out of hospital care.

The initial CHF recommendation for a consumer workshop to inform consumers about the reforms and allow discussion among consumer networks to develop input to draft legislation will go ahead in October 2006.

1.2 Engaging with health service providers to optimise consumer outcomes

During 2005-06, CHF has continued as a key partner in the Community Quality Use of Medicines (QUM) Program run by the National Prescribing Service (NPS). This Program was developed in response to consumer demand and the CHF Community QUM Project funded by the NPS provides capacity for CHF to ensure that consumer networks remain central to its implementation. The project also means that CHF can advance work in its own priority area of safe and appropriate use of medicines.

CHF continues to promote the CHF model for consumer led Community QUM Engagements, which has been recognised by external evaluators as playing an important role in delivering QUM messages to hard to reach communities in rural, regional and remote areas. CHF works with a local consumer liaison person or group to tailor activities to meet local consumer needs. Often CHF facilitates discussions about factors that affect quality use of medicines in the area and group work to become familiar with and provide feedback on information about nationally available services, such as *Medimate*, Consumer Medicines Information, *MedicinesLine* and home medicines reviews. Strategies to help the local group continue to work on improving quality use of medicines after the CHF engagement are also discussed. The local community members identify an appropriate health care provider,

such as a home medication review pharmacist or a doctor or NPS facilitator from the local division of general practice, to answer questions or provide information about local services.

Also through this project work, CHF is able to provide input to consumer members of key medicines committees such as the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee and the Pharmaceutical Benefits Pricing Authority as well as support consumer representatives on a range of other medicines-related committees. During 2005-06, CHF ran a consumer workshop about generic medicines and another on quality use of medicines for people with chronic illness.

1.3 Advocating for consumers to optimise their personal health outcomes

The CHF Electronic Health Records project in 2005-06 included consumer representative workshops, information sessions run with members in states involved in implementing *HealthConnect*, and a CHF workshop for member representatives. These consultations have paved the way for a new project in 2006-08 that focuses on e-health for consumers. Through CHF advocacy, health providers and the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing which funds the project, have become aware that consumers are active users of e-health to optimise their own health outcomes. Much of the e-health development to date has focused on the needs of health services and health care providers and yet consumers have been instrumental in influencing the adoption of e-health to improve safety and quality in health care.

1.4 Develop a proactive capacity to identify and respond to emerging issues

The funded project work in CHF priority areas ensures that CHF has consultative processes and Secretariat capacity in place to respond to emerging issues such as the Human Services smartcard proposal, health workforce issues that affect safety and quality in health care and the cost of private health insurance. A list of key submissions and conference presentations is included on page A2.

Goal 2 Improve CHF's profile and communications with key stakeholders

CHF has made progress against all five of the objectives under Goal 2 during 2005-06 to ensure that CHF maintains a strong profile and communications with its members and other key stakeholders in health.

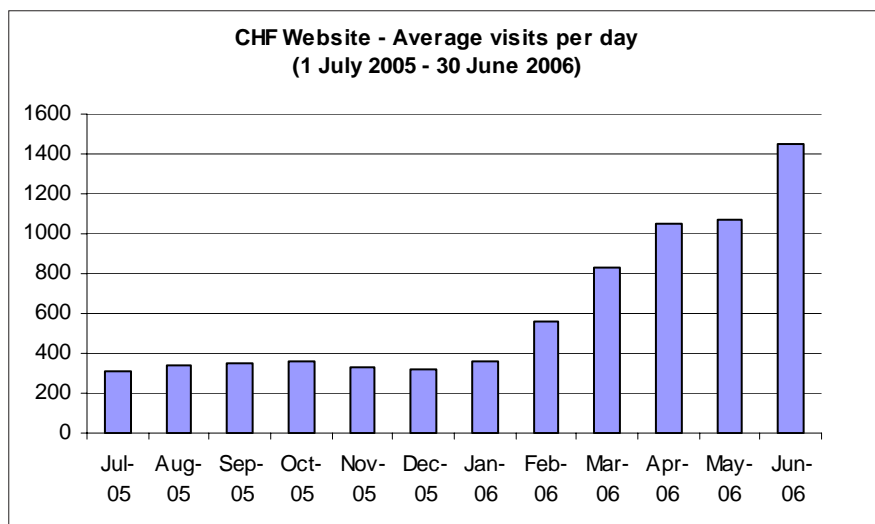
2.1 Promote CHF as a national leader for health consumers

During the year, the CHF Chairperson, Mitch Messer was invited to present to the New Zealand Guidelines Group on the role of CHF as a peak health consumer organisation in the Australian model for consumer participation in health policy at a national level. He also provided this overview to a forum run by the newly formed Australian Institute for Health Policy Studies at Parliament House. The CHF Executive Director was also invited to speak at an international conference in Washington on the contribution CHF has made to consumer participation in the development and uptake of e-health initiatives in Australia.

2.2 Improve CHF's communications

The questionnaire about *HealthUpdate* in late 2005 showed that members value the CHF newsletter, with most respondents reading it cover to cover. Members suggested making the newsletter easier to read electronically as many circulate it to their members more widely by email, while others wait for the hard copy .

CHF is delighted to report to members that visits to www.chf.org.au have increased substantially during 2005-06 as can be seen from the bar graph, adapted from the July 2006 Webtrends report.



2.3 Strengthen and optimise relationships with members

During 2005-06, CHF has worked on a membership engagement strategy that includes being clearer about the benefits and services of CHF membership and a membership engagement plan has been prioritised for 2006-07. A complete list of members is provided on page A3.

2.4 Promote the inclusion of a consumer perspective in relevant areas

CHF has continued to provide speakers for a range of conferences and to promote consumer representation with 62 appointments made to 48 committees in 2005-06. A complete list of committees and consumer representatives that have been active during the year is provided on page A6.

2.5 Strengthen and improve consumer representation and participation

The Consumer Representatives Recruitment, Training and Support Project remains funded to March 2007, following successful negotiation of a contract with the Department of Health and Ageing from December 2005. The project will help CHF to meet the performance measures identified in the *Strategic Plan 2005-09* through implementation of the continuous quality improvement policy and a plan for annual evaluation of the effectiveness of the Consumer Representatives Program. CHF continues to advocate for sustainable funding for the Consumer Representatives Program.

Goal 3 Strengthen CHF governance and management

The Governing Committee has put a particular focus on strengthening the governance program and ensuring a sustainable financial base during 2005-06 to ensure that CHF members are well-placed for the October 2006 election of a new Governing Committee.

3.1 Strengthen the governance program

The *Constitution* was reviewed and revised during 2005 and adopted at the Annual General Meeting in October 2005. A review of the governance program has commenced. Members were advised of the criteria developed by the Governing Committee for them to consider when nominating Governing Committee members for the 2006 election through the CHF newsletter, *HealthUpdate*.

3.2 Strengthen the Secretariat's capability and capacity

The CHF Secretariat works hard to support CHF requirements effectively, and external stakeholders comment on the achievements of the small team. CHF continues to build on a restructure in early 2005 to align the work of the Secretariat with the goals of the *Strategic Plan 2005-09*. Work has commenced on a human resource manual to build on staff satisfaction and allow the development of new initiatives. Organisational policies and procedures have been developed and are updated annually.

3.3 Develop and share consumer knowledge base

The email lists established and maintained through the Community QUM Project and the Electronic Health Records Project have provided an important resource for CHF and consumer representatives to share the consumer knowledge base during 2005-06. The relevant policy officers post information about articles in the media or consultations that are underway and CHF submissions and reports. Members on the list often provide additional articles and respond to postings in an interactive way. These interactive discussions and the project pages on the CHF website are also invaluable for briefing key advocates on emerging issues.

3.4 Maintain and improve a sustainable financial base

The Governing Committee has put considerable effort into developing a sustainable financial base for CHF and has achieved a prudent surplus in 2006. Initial financial advice was obtained to assist with this work in 2006 and improved reporting and more detailed costing of all activities is one of the management targets for 2006-07.

HELEN HOPKINS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

CHF Governance

The Consumers' Health Forum of Australia Incorporated (CHF) is incorporated under the *Associations Incorporation Act 1991* (ACT).

Governing Committee

The Governing Committee is responsible for all facets of the management of CHF and meets face-to-face three times a year. Voting members of CHF elect a Governing Committee every two years at an Annual General Meeting. The current Governing Committee was elected on 28 October 2004. The *Constitution* provides for a twelve-member Governing Committee, comprising:

- five members nominated by organisations that are constituted on a national basis, and
- seven members nominated by organisations that are not constituted on a national basis.

Members of the Governing Committee

Mitch Messer – Chairperson (Health Consumers' Council of WA)

Russell McGowan – Vice Chairperson (Health Care Consumers' Association of the ACT)

Susan Mitchell – Treasurer (Health Consumers of Rural and Remote Australia)

Margaret Charlton (South Australian Consumer Reps Network) from 5 May 2005

Sally Crossing AM (Cancer Voices NSW)

Frank Fisher (Health Issues Centre)

Roy Harvey (Australian Council of Social Services) to 9 August 2006

Kirsty Machon (National Association of People Living with HIV/AIDS)

Christopher Newell AM (Tasmanians with Disabilities)

Sheila Rimmer AM (Carers Australia)

Alexandra Rivers (Mental Health Co-ordinating Council)

Diane Walsh (Consumer Reference Group, Top End Division of General Practice)

Executive Committee

The Governing Committee elects an Executive Committee, comprising the CHF Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Treasurer and two other members of the Governing Committee. The Executive is responsible for implementing the policy decisions of the Governing Committee, and for the management and finances of CHF. The Executive meets by teleconference between Governing Committee meetings.

During 2005–06, the Executive Committee comprised:

- Mitch Messer, Chairperson
- Russell McGowan, Vice Chairperson
- Susan Mitchell, Treasurer
- Sheila Rimmer AM
- Diane Walsh

Sub-committees

As a membership organisation driven by the needs and views of its members, CHF establishes Sub-committees of the Governing Committee to assist in developing its policies and responses.

The following Sub-committees met during the year:

- Consumer Representatives Sub-committee
- Membership Sub-committee
- *The Australian Health Consumer* Editorial Sub-committee.

Attendance

	Governing Committee (3 Meetings)	Executive Committee (7 Meetings)
Mitch Messer	3/3	7/7
Russell McGowan	3/3	7/7
Susan Mitchell	3/3	7/7
Sheila Rimmer	3/3	6/7
Diane Walsh	3/3	6/7
Margaret Charlton	3/3	
Sally Crossing	3/3	
Frank Fisher	3/3	
Roy Harvey	3/3	
Kirsty Machon	2/3	
Christopher Newell	3/3	
Alexandra Rivers	2/3	

CHF Governing Committee

Mitch Messer (Chairperson)

Mitch Messer has been the CHF Chairperson since November 2003 and a member of the CHF Governing Committee since 1998.

He is Executive Director of Cystic Fibrosis Western Australia and the President of Cystic Fibrosis Worldwide and a Trustee of the Australian Cystic Fibrosis Research Trust. In addition to his work with Cystic Fibrosis, he has been involved with health consumer issues through other organisations including the Health Consumers' Council of WA, where he has been a Board member and Chairperson. He is a founding member and current Treasurer of the Genetic Support Council of WA (Inc), which is the peak group representing the interests of those with genetic conditions in Western Australia.

Mitch has also been involved in many committees and working groups dealing with a range of issues – especially quality use of medicines, genetic services and lung transplant. He is currently the consumer member of the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee (PBAC) and the CHF representative on the Australian Pharmaceutical Advisory Council.

Russell McGowan (Vice Chairperson)

Russell McGowan is President of the Health Care Consumers' Association of the ACT and a member of the ACT Health Council. He is a board member of the National Blood Authority, the Australian Divisions of General Practice and the Australian Council on Healthcare Standards and consumer representative on the Australian Screening Advisory Committee.

Having been diagnosed with myelofibrosis in 1992, Russell underwent a bone marrow transplant and is now retired from the workforce suffering the consequences of his treatment, a condition called chronic graft versus host disease (cGVHD). Coming into contact with the health consumer movement through an oncology services consumer group in Canberra more than a decade ago, he has worked since then with other chronic disease sufferers and cancer survivors to present a consumer perspective in primary healthcare and quality and safety forums.

Russell's life experience prior to engagement with the health system included fieldwork, teaching and policy development around

Australia, mainly in community and indigenous employment, education and training programs. He studied engineering, psychology and politics at undergraduate level in Adelaide and has since undertaken postgraduate studies in Aboriginal education and public administration.

Susan Mitchell (Treasurer)

Susan Mitchell has had a long and productive association with consumer representation with state-based and national organisations. This experience has developed her knowledge and understanding of consumer representation and activism.

Susan's goal is to achieve equality of access to health services by people in metropolitan, rural and remote areas, which involves working with all sorts of people to achieve positive outcomes. Her work is often made more complex by the fact that she does not live in a major city or regional centre.

In 1998 she completed the Australian Institute of Company Directors Course.

She is President of the NSW Association of Rural Financial Counselling Groups which is part of The Rural Mental Health Network, a group of agencies and individuals who share a common goal and have agreed to work together to improve the mental health and wellbeing of farming people and farming communities.

Sheila Rimmer AM (Executive Committee)

Sheila Rimmer is a former President of Council on the Ageing Australia and Council on the Ageing (NSW).

Educated at the London School of Economics at London University and at Columbia University, New York, she moved to Australia in 1964 and retired from work as a full-time academic. Since then she has worked on ageing and health issues.

She is a member of the NSW Greater Metropolitan Taskforce and at a national level, the Commission for Complaints in Aged Care, the National Agency Liaison Group (Aged Care Standards and Accreditation), the National Prescribing Service Community Quality Use of Medicines Working Group, the Australian Women's Coalition, the Medical Services Advisory Committee and the Australian Medical Council Specialist Education Accreditation Committee.

Diane Walsh (Executive Committee)

Diane Walsh is Chairperson of the CHF Consumer Representatives Sub-committee. She is CHF's nominee to the National Prescribing Service Community Quality Use of Medicines Working Group and Medicare Australia's Consumer Consultative Group. She is also the current alternate consumer class director of the National Prescribing Service, and a member of the Australian Medical Council.

Diane chairs the Consumer Reference Group of the Top End Division of General Practice. In the Northern Territory she holds positions as the public member of the Medical and Dental Boards of the Northern Territory, community member of the NT Health Advisory Council, and consumer member of the Board of the Top End Division of General Practice.

Diane works as a part-time primary teacher and runs a small market business. She began her consumer involvement through her employment as a childbirth educator, and membership of the Childbirth Education Association and the Darwin Homebirth Group. She is particularly interested in workforce standards, training and supervision, rural and remote access, and women's and children's health.

Margaret Charlton

Margaret Charlton is a member of the Steering Committee of the South Australian Consumer Reps Network and was elected to the Management Committee of the Health Consumers Alliance of South Australia in November 2004.

She has been on the Board of the Epilepsy Association of South Australia and the Northern Territory since its inception in 1976 and has lobbied strongly for a less discriminatory approach to people with epilepsy by employers and other organisations.

Margaret was also involved in consumer issues through the Health and Social Welfare Council, and while completing an education degree she majored in health studies at Flinders University.

Margaret has always had a strong interest in safety and quality issues, particularly the prevention of adverse events and incidents, pharmacy standards and consumer education. She works with adult migrants and refugees as the educator of a community program and has taught indigenous young people for a number of years.

Sally Crossing AM

Diagnosed and treated for breast cancer in 1995 and 2004, Sally founded the Breast Cancer Action Group NSW in 1997. This group has over 700 survivor members across the state and provides a voice for people affected by breast cancer who want to 'make a difference'.

Sally is also Chair of Cancer Voices NSW, a coalition of 85 cancer consumer groups which acts on behalf of the 34 000 people diagnosed with cancer in NSW each year.

At national level, she sits on the Steering Committee of Cancer Voices Australia and the Governing Committee of the Consumers' Health Forum of Australia (CHF), where she chairs the CHF Membership Sub Committee. Sally also acts as consumer representative on committees at both state and national levels.

In 2005 Sally was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) for services to the community through health care consumer advocacy and the establishment of the Breast Cancer Action Group NSW and Cancer Voices NSW. The NSW Minister for Fair Trading presented her with the inaugural Consumer Advocate Award in December 2001 for her work for women with breast cancer.

Initially trained as an economist, and after a career in banking and government, Sally works full time on a voluntary basis to represent health care consumers, particularly those who have experienced cancer. She is a fervent supporter of the work of the CHF and is keen to see its profile raised as it marks its second decade of providing a strong voice for Australian health consumers.

Frank Fisher

Frank Fisher has had a serious chronic illness for the past forty years and is an active lobbyist for people with chronic illnesses. He is a past Committee of Management member of the Health Issues Centre. Frank has been a member of the Board of the Continence Foundation of Australia and other health-related organisations. He is also a member of various Victorian community groups.

Nationally, Frank is the consumer representative on the Therapeutic Goods Administration Medical Devices Evaluation Committee and the National Health and Medical Research Council Expert Advisory Group on Antimicrobial Resistance.

He is an Associate Professor and until 2005 was Director of the Graduate School of Environmental Science, Monash University.

He is now Director of The Understandscope: Interpreter of the Mundane, based in the Department of Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine at Monash University, as well as Convenor, graduate sustainability programs at Swinburne University.

Roy Harvey

Roy Harvey has been engaged in health service research, development of health statistics and policy, and the management of research and statistics groups for over thirty years. He has led health sector reform projects in Eastern Europe, South East Asia and China for the World Bank and AusAID, and developed and presented training programs for the World Bank.

Since 2002, he has been the Australian Council of Social Service (ACOSS) health policy adviser, representing ACOSS on the Australian Pharmaceutical Advisory Committee and the 2004 Senate Committee on Health Insurance, and has prepared ACOSS policy papers on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme.

Roy has worked closely with consumer groups since the late 1980s, especially CHF and Council on the Ageing Australia mainly on issues related to polypharmacy and privacy. His main interests are equity of access to health and aged care services, improving continuity of care, and health and long-term unemployment.

Kirsty Machon

Kirsty Machon is the HIV Health Policy Analyst for the National Association of People Living with HIV/AIDS (NAPWA). She is responsible for co-ordinating and developing policies and submissions for HIV/AIDS treatments information and advocacy, health service delivery, treatments access, conduct of research in humans, and community participation in clinical research design.

She is also a journalist, and former editor of *Positive Living* and the *HIV Herald* – two national publications about HIV and its treatment, for HIV positive people and community-based HIV health professionals.

Kirsty has a particular interest in research ethics. Her work has included clinical trial design and development, and she represents NAPWA on a number of groups, including the

Advisory Board of the Australian Centre for HIV and Hepatitis Virology Research, and the Australian Antiretroviral Therapy Guidelines reference panel of the Australasian Society for HIV Medicine.

Christopher Newell AM

Christopher Newell is the Chairperson of *The Australian Health Consumer* Editorial Subcommittee.

For a number of years he has been nominated to the CHF Governing Committee by Tasmanians with Disabilities, a trans-diagnostic organisation that focuses on advocacy, policy development and self-help for, and on behalf of, people with all types of disability. Both Tasmanians with Disabilities and Christopher have a broad interest in the work of CHF and issues for all consumers. Consumer rights, ethics, and consumer research are several particular interest areas, as is general practice reform, and pursuing areas where personal experience as a consumer facilitates effective advocacy for consumer rights. People with a disability are a significant social grouping disadvantaged in today's society.

Christopher has been a consumer representative for many years for Tasmanians with Disabilities and other consumer bodies on a number of national and state forums in many fields including telecommunications, rights, advocacy, ethics, education and health.

Alexandra Rivers

Alexandra Rivers is a carer and family member of people with chronic illness and health problems. She is a Board member of the Mental Health Co-ordinating Council of NSW. She is also Vice President of the Schizophrenia Fellowship of NSW and the NSW Aboriginal Education Council, and a Board member of the Neuroscience Institute for Schizophrenia and Allied Disorders (NSW). She has been a member of carers working parties for the NSW Centre for Mental Health and other organisations.

A teacher and a registered psychologist, she retired recently from an academic position. She is currently a member of the Guardianship Tribunal of NSW, and acts as a Guardian Ad Litem for the Children's Court of NSW, and for the Administrative Decisions Tribunal of NSW.

She is a committed advocate for the involvement of mental health service consumers in the development of mental health policy, practice and research.

CHF Staff

The Executive Director, Helen Hopkins, is the senior employee of CHF and has responsibility for the CHF Secretariat staff, day-to-day finance and administration, and other delegations and powers given by the Governing Committee.

In 2005-06, the secretariat team has made a strong contribution to the work of CHF:

Melanie Cantwell, Director Policy and Projects

Jan Finley, Special Services Advisor

Emma Awizen, Membership Services Manager (returned from leave December 2005)

Amanda Bresnan, Policy Manager

Janet Cameron, Office Manager

Janet Cossart, Consumer Representatives Program Manager

Claudia Cresswell, Community Development Officer (from March 2006)

Scott Harlum, Policy Development Officer (from June 2006)

Milly Betteridge, Policy Officer (casual work)

Colleen Sheen, Communications Manager (to February 2006)

Melanie Rogers, Knowledge Management Officer (casual work to March 2006)

Yvonne Solly, Community Quality Use of Medicines Project Officer (to March 2006)

**Financial Report for
the Year Ended
30 June 2006**

CONSUMERS' HEALTH FORUM OF AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED
ABN 59 369 286 137

COMMITTEE MEMBERS' REPORT

Your committee members present their report on the association for the financial year ended 30 June 2006.

Committee Members

The names of the committee members in office at any time during or since the end of the financial year are:

Mitchell Messer – Chairperson
Russell McGowan – Vice Chairperson
Susan Mitchell – Treasurer
Sheila Rimmer – Secretary
Sally Crossing
Frank Fisher
Christopher Newell
Diane Walsh
Roy Harvey
Alexandra Rivers
Kirstin Machon
Margaret Charlton

Operating Results

The surplus of the association for the financial year was \$32,125 (2005: \$26,953 loss).

Significant Changes in State of Affairs

No significant changes in the state of affairs occurred during the financial year.

Principal Activity

The principal activity of the association during the financial year was to contribute to the development of equitable health services.

No significant change in the nature of these activities occurred during the year.

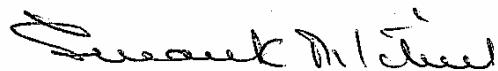
After Balance Date Events

No matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the association, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the association in future financial years.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the committee:



Mitchell Messer - Chairperson



Susan Mitchell - Treasurer

Dated: 26 September 2006

CONSUMERS' HEALTH FORUM OF AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED
ABN 59 369 286 137

INCOME STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2006

	Notes	2006 \$	2005 \$
Revenue from all activities	3	977,857	970,127
Expenditure			
Administration costs		(230,753)	(216,825)
Program costs		(714,979)	(780,255)
Net surplus/(deficit) from all activities		32,125	(26,953)

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

CONSUMERS' HEALTH FORUM OF AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED
ABN 59 369 286 137

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 30 JUNE 2006

	Notes	2006 \$	2005 \$
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	6	138,931	13,604
Trade and other receivables	7	350,272	79,972
Other current assets	9	3,295	8,221
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		492,498	101,797
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Financial assets	8	16,145	16,145
Property, plant and equipment	10	68,494	85,194
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		84,639	101,339
TOTAL ASSETS		577,137	203,136
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and other payables	11	82,551	32,373
Financial liabilities	12	9,865	17,642
Provisions	13	36,330	34,608
Other	14	344,712	32,441
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		473,458	117,064
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Interest bearing liabilities	12	-	9,865
Provisions	13	4,855	4,409
Other	14	425	5,525
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		5,280	19,799
TOTAL LIABILITIES		478,738	136,863
NET ASSETS		98,399	66,273
EQUITY			
Retained surplus		98,399	66,273
TOTAL EQUITY		98,399	66,273

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

CONSUMERS' HEALTH FORUM OF AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED
ABN 59 369 286 137

STATEMENT OF RECOGNISED INCOME & EXPENDITURE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2006

	Retained Earnings	Total Equity
	\$	\$
Balance at 1 July 2004	93,226	93,226
Net Surplus/(Loss) for the year	<u>(26,953)</u>	<u>(26,953)</u>
Balance at 30 June 2005	<u>66,273</u>	<u>66,273</u>
Balance at 1 July 2005	66,273	66,273
Net Surplus/(Loss) for the year	<u>32,126</u>	<u>32,126</u>
Balance at 30 June 2006	<u>98,399</u>	<u>98,399</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

CONSUMERS' HEALTH FORUM OF AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED
ABN 59 369 286 137

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2006

	Notes	2006 \$	2005 \$
CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Receipts government, members and other parties	3	1,114,951	1,086,064
Interest received		6,653	4,448
Payments to suppliers and employees		(970,302)	(1,144,882)
Borrowing costs		(5,438)	(7,958)
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	18	145,864	(62,378)
CASH FLOW FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Payments for property, plant and equipment		(2,896)	(5,233)
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment		-	-
Net cash provided by/(used) investing activities		(2,896)	(5,233)
CASH FLOW FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Repayment of finance lease principal		(17,641)	(15,688)
Net cash provided by/(used in) financing activities		(17,641)	(15,688)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash held		125,327	(83,299)
Cash at beginning of financial year		13,604	96,903
Cash at end of financial year	6	138,931	13,604

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

CONSUMERS' HEALTH FORUM OF AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED
ABN 59 369 286 137

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2006

NOTE 1: STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial report is a general purpose financial report that has been prepared in accordance with Accounting Standards, Urgent Issues Group Consensus Views and other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board and the requirements of the Associations Incorporations Act 1991 of the Australian Capital Territory.

The financial report covers the Consumers' Health Forum of Australia Incorporated as an individual entity. The Consumers' Health Forum of Australia Incorporated is an Association established under the Associations Incorporations Act 1991 of the Australian Capital Territory.

Australian Accounting Standards include Australian equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). Compliance with the Australian equivalents to IFRS (AIFRS) ensures that the financial report, comprising the financial statements and notes complies with IFRS.

The financial report has been prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historical costs. It does not take into account changing money values or, except where stated, current valuations of non-current assets. Cost is based on the fair values of the consideration given in exchange for assets.

The following is a summary of significant accounting policies adopted by the Association in the preparation of the financial report. The accounting policies have been consistently applied, unless otherwise stated.

(a) Income Tax

The Association is exempt from income tax under Subdivision 50-B of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997.

(b) Property, Plant and Equipment

Plant and equipment

Plant and equipment is valued at cost or fair value less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation. The carrying amount of plant and equipment is reviewed annually by management to ensure it is not in excess of the recoverable amount from these assets.

Depreciation

Plant and equipment is measured on the cost basis.

The depreciable amount of all fixed assets is depreciated over their useful lives to the Association commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

The depreciation rates for each category of property, plant and equipment are:

Class of asset	Depreciation rates	Depreciation basis
Equipment	10%-33.34%	Straight Line
	10%-33.34%	Diminishing Value
Leasehold improvements	10%	Diminishing Value
Lease assets	20%-33.34%	Straight Line

(c) Leasehold assets

Finance leases

Leases of fixed assets where substantially all the risks and benefits incidental to the ownership of the asset, but not the legal ownership, are transferred to the Association are classified as finance leases. Finance lease are capitalized, recording a liability equal to the present value of the minimum lease payments, including any guaranteed residual values. Finance lease assets are depreciated on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful life of the asset. Finance lease payments are allocated between interest expense and reduction of lease liability over the term of the lease. The interest rate is determined by applying the interest rate implicit in the lease to the outstanding lease liability at the beginning of each lease payment period.

CONSUMERS' HEALTH FORUM OF AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED
ABN 59 369 286 137

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2006

(c) Leasehold assets (Continued)

Operating Leases

Lease payments for operating leases, where substantially all the risks and benefits remain with the lessor, are recognized as an expense in the period in which they are incurred.

Lease incentives

Lease incentives under operating leases are recognised as a lease incentive liability (other current liabilities) when provided. Lease payments made over the remainder of the lease term reduce the liability to the extent that they are in excess of the average monthly rentals.

(d) Employee benefits

Provision is made for the Association's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to balance date. Employee benefits expected to be settled within one year together with entitlements arising from salaries and annual leave that will be settled after one year, have been measured at their nominal amount at the remuneration rates expected to apply at the time of settlement. Other employee benefits payable later than one year have been measured using a shorthand method that reliably estimates the present value of the estimated future cash flows to be made for those benefits. Contributions made to employee superannuation funds by the Association are charges as expenses when incurred.

(e) Cash

For the purposes of the Statement of Cash Flows, cash includes cash on hand and in banks, in deposits at call and investments in money market instruments convertible to cash, net of outstanding bank overdrafts.

(f) Revenue

Grants

Grants are recognised as revenue to the extent that the monies have been applied in accordance with that conditions of the grant. Grant funds received prior to year-end but unexpended as at that date are recognised as unexpended grants (other current liabilities).

Membership fees and journal subscriptions

Revenue from membership fees and journal subscriptions are recognised progressively over the period to which the membership or subscription relates. Both membership fees and journal subscriptions are levied on a financial year basis. The portion of membership fees and journal subscriptions received that relates to the following financial year is brought to account at balance date as revenue received in advance (other current liability).

Other revenue

All other revenue is recognised upon the delivery of the goods or services to the customer.

(g) Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office. In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of expense. Receivables and payables in the Statement of Financial Position are shown inclusive of GST.

(h) Comparative information

The classification of comparative figures has been changed where the change improves the understandability of the financial information.

CONSUMERS' HEALTH FORUM OF AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED
ABN 59 369 286 137

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2006

	2006	2005
	\$	\$
Note 3: Revenue		
Operating activities:		
- Grant revenue	923,457	919,202
- Membership fees	29,169	27,885
- Publications and journal subscriptions	8,573	13,027
- Other	10,422	5,565
	971,621	965,679
Non-operating activities		
- Interest	6,653	4,448
- Profit/(Loss) and disposal of equipment	(417)	-
	6,236	4,448
Total revenue	977,857	970,127
Note 4: Surplus/(Deficit) From Ordinary Activities		
Net surplus/(deficit) from ordinary activities has been determined after:		
(a) Expenses:		
Depreciation of non-current assets		
- Plant and equipment	4,381	6,797
- Leasehold improvements	4,280	4,756
- Leasehold assets	10,934	12,762
	19,595	24,315
Borrowing costs		
- Lease finance charges	5,438	7,643
Rental expense on operating leases:		
- Premises	69,378	68,336
- Plant and equipment	-	-
Total	74,816	75,979
Note 5: Auditors' Remuneration		
Remuneration received by the auditor during the financial year for:		
- Auditing or reviewing the financial report	5,400	5,995
- Other services	-	-
	5,400	5,995

CONSUMERS' HEALTH FORUM OF AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED
ABN 59 369 286 137

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2006

	2006	2005
	\$	\$
<hr/>		
Note 6: Cash and Cash Equivalents		
Cash on hand	100	100
Cash at bank	138,831	13,504
	138,931	13,604
	138,931	13,604
Note 7: Trade Debtors and Other Receivables		
CURRENT		
Debtors	350,272	79,972
	350,272	79,972
	350,272	79,972
Note 8: Financial Assets		
NON CURRENT		
Bond on leased office premises	16,145	16,145
	16,145	16,145
	16,145	16,145
(i) Relates to a bank guarantee held with the St George Bank Limited, in favour of The Institution of Engineers, Australia, the lessor of Unit 10, Level 2, Engineering House, 11 National Circuit Barton ACT. The amount represents three months rent, and is refundable to the Association on expiration of the current lease, subject to satisfactory vacation of the leased premises.		
Note 9: Other Assets		
CURRENT		
Accrued revenues	815	-
Prepayments	2,480	8,221
	3,295	8,221
	3,295	8,221
Note 10: Property, plant and equipment		
Office equipment –at cost	39,089	38,288
Accumulated depreciation	(24,639)	(22,353)
	14,450	15,935
Leasehold improvements-at cost	52,057	52,057
Accumulated depreciation	(13,536)	(9,255)
	38,852	42,802
Leased assets – office furniture and equipment – at cost	52,375	52,375
Accumulated depreciation	(36,852)	(25,918)
	15,523	26,457
Total property, plant and equipment	68,494	85,194
	68,494	85,194

CONSUMERS' HEALTH FORUM OF AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED
ABN 59 369 286 137

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2006

2006 **2005**
\$ **\$**

Note 10: Property, plant and equipment (continued)

(a) Movements in Carrying Amounts

movement in the carrying amounts of each class of property, plant and equipment between the beginning and the end of the current financial year.

2006	Plant & equipment	Leasehold improvements	Leased assets	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Opening balance	15,935	42,802	26,457	85,194
Additions/(Disposals)	2,896	-	-	2,896
Depreciation expense	(4,381)	(4,280)	(10,934)	(19,595)
Carrying amount at end of year	<u>14,450</u>	<u>38,522</u>	<u>15,523</u>	<u>68,494</u>

Note 11: Trade and Other Payables

CURRENT

Unsecured liabilities

Creditors and accrued expenses	82,551	32,373
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Note 12: Financial liabilities

CURRENT

Lease liability	9,865	17,642
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NON CURRENT

Lease liabilities	-	9,865
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Total financial liabilities	9,865	27,507
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Note 13: Provisions

CURRENT

Annual Leave	22,780	22,705
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Long service leave	13,550	11,903
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	36,330	34,608
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NON CURRENT

Long service leave	4,855	4,409
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Total provisions	41,185	39,017
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Note 14: Other liabilities

CURRENT

Unexpended grants	332,866	12,795
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Revenue received in advance	6,745	14,545
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Lease incentive	5,101	5,101
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	344,712	32,441
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CONSUMERS' HEALTH FORUM OF AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED
ABN 59 369 286 137

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2006

	2006	2005
	\$	\$
<hr/>		
Note 14: Other liabilities (cont'd)		
NON-CURRENT LIABILITITES		
Lease incentive	<u>425</u>	5,525
Total other liabilities	<u>345,137</u>	37,966

Note 15: Leasing Commitments

(a) *Finance leases*

Finance leases commitments payable:

- not later than 1 year	14,966	17,642
- later than 1 year, but not later than 5 years	<u>425</u>	9,865
Minimum lease payments	15,391	27,507
Less future finance charges	<u>(412)</u>	(2,455)
Total lease liability	<u>14,979</u>	<u>25,052</u>

General description of leasing arrangements:

Finance leases relate to office furniture lease expiring in September 2006 (3 year lease with a \$2,077 residual payable on expiration), computer hardware lease expiring in July 2006 (3 year lease, zero residual) and a photocopier lease expiring September 2007 (5 year lease, zero residual).

(b) *Operating leases*

Operating leases commitments payable:

- not later than 1 year	56,109	57,460
- later than 1 year, not greater than 5 years	<u>168,327</u>	153,227
Minimum lease payments	<u>224,436</u>	<u>210,687</u>

General description of leasing arrangements

Operating leases relate to office premises lease at Unit 10, Level 2, Engineering House, 11 National Circuit Barton ACT. The office premises lease expires July 2007 with an option to renew for a further 3 years, and has a fixed 4% annual increase in rental payments which has been included in the amounts disclosed above.

CONSUMERS' HEALTH FORUM OF AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED
ABN 59 369 286 137

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2006

2006 **2005**
\$ **\$**

Note 16: Related Parties

The names of the committee members who have held office during the financial year are:

Mitchell Messer
 Russell McGowan
 Susan Mitchell
 Sheila Rimmer
 Sally Crossing
 Frank Fisher
 Christopher Newell
 Diane Walsh
 Roy Harvey
 Alexandra Rivers
 Kirstin Machon
 Margaret Charlton

At the direction of the Chair, the Chairman's honorarium for the financial year has been remitted to his employer as recompense for time taken off in fulfilling his role as Chair of the Association. In addition, four committee members received sitting fees for their work on project steering committees during the year.

Note 17: Association Details

(a) Association details

The association is incorporated under the Associations Incorporation Act 1991 of the Australian Capital Territory.

(b) Locations

The registered office and principal place of business of the Association is:
 Unit 10, Level 2, Engineering House, 11 National Circuit, Barton ACT

(c) Activities

The Association provides information, representation and advocacy on national health issues for its membership of health consumer organisations.

Note 18: Cash Flow Information

(a) Reconciliation of net cash flows from operating activities to net surplus/(deficit)

Net surplus/(deficit) from ordinary activities	32,125	(26,953)
Non-cash flows in surplus/(deficit) from ordinary activities		
-Depreciation	19,595	24,315
-Gain/Loss on disposal of plant and equipment	417	-
Changes in assets and liabilities		
-Receivables	(270,300)	16,593
-Other financial assets	-	-
-Other assets	4,926	(5,029)
-Payables	50,178	12,917
-Provisions	2,168	10,212
-Other liabilities (including lease incentives)	306,755	(94,433)
Net cash relating to operating activities	145,864	(62,378)

CONSUMERS' HEALTH FORUM OF AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED
ABN 59 369 286 137

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2006

2006 2005

Note 19: Financial Instruments

Exposures to interest rate risk on financial assets and liabilities

2006

	Fixed Interest Maturing				Floating Interest	Total
	Non Interest Bearing	1 Year or Less	1 to 2 Years	2 to 5 years		
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
<i>(i) Financial Assets</i>						
Cash and Cash Equivalents	100	—	—	—	138,831	138,931
Financial Assets (Rental Bond)	16,145					16,145
Trade & Other Receivables	350,272	—	—	—	—	350,272
Total Financial Assets	366,517	—	—	—	138,831	505,348
<i>Range of Effective Interest Rates</i>	—	—	—	—	4.5%	

(ii) Financial Liabilities

Trade & Other Payables	82,551	—	—	—	—	82,551
Financial Liabilities	—	9,865	—	—	—	9,865
Other Liabilities	344,712	—	—	—	—	344,712
Total Financial Liabilities	427,263	9,865	—	—	—	437,128
<i>Range of Effective Interest Rates</i>	—	11.5%	—	—	—	

2005

	Fixed Interest Maturing				Floating Interest	Total
	Non Interest Bearing	1 Year or Less	1 to 2 Years	2 to 5 years		
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
<i>(i) Financial Assets</i>						
	96,217	—	—	—	13,504	359,785
<i>Range of Effective Interest Rates</i>	—	—	—	—	4.25%	
<i>(ii) Financial Liabilities</i>						
	64,814	17,642	9,865	—	—	92,321

Credit Risk Exposure

The maximum exposure to credit risk at balance date to recognised financial assets is the carrying amount as disclosed in the statement of financial position and notes to the financial statements. With the exception of cash deposits with St George Bank and grants receivable from the Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing the Association does not have any material credit risk exposure to any single debtor or group of debtors.

CONSUMERS' HEALTH FORUM OF AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED

**STATEMENT BY COMMITTEE MEMBERS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2006**

In the opinion of the Committee:

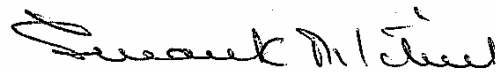
- (i) the accompanying Statement of Financial Performance is drawn up so as to give a true and fair view of the results of the Association for the year ended 30 June 2006.
- (ii) the accompanying Statement of Financial Position is drawn up so as to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Association as at 30 June 2006.
- (iii) at the date of this statement there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Association will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

The financial statements have been made out in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements. The financial statements were prepared based on the accounts and records as maintained and kept at the office of the Consumers' Health Forum of Australia Incorporated.

This statement is made and signed at Canberra in accordance with a resolution of the Committee.



Mitchell Messer - Chairperson



Susan Mitchell - Treasurer

Dated: 26 September 2006

INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF CONSUMERS' HEALTH FORUM OF AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED

SCOPE

The financial report and committee's responsibility

The financial report comprises the statement of financial position, statement of financial performance, statement of cash flows, accompanying notes to the financial statements and the committee's declaration for Consumers' Health Forum of Australia Incorporated, for the year ended 30 June 2006.

The association is responsible for the preparation and true and fair presentation of the financial report, in accordance with its Constitution. This includes responsibility for the maintenance of adequate accounting records and internal controls that are designed to prevent and detect fraud and error, and for the accounting policies and accounting estimates inherent in the financial report.

Audit Approach

We conducted an independent audit in order to express an opinion to the members of the association. Our audit was conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, in order to provide reasonable assurance as to whether the financial report is free of material misstatement. The nature of an audit is influenced by factors such as the use of professional judgement, selective testing, the inherent limitations of internal control, and the availability of persuasive rather than conclusive evidence. Therefore, an audit cannot guarantee that all material misstatements have been detected.

We performed procedures to assess whether in all material respects the financial report presents fairly, in accordance with the Accounting Standards in Australia, and other mandatory financial reporting requirements in Australia, a view which is consistent with our understanding of the associations financial position, and of their performance as represented by the results of its operations and cash flows.

We formed our audit opinion on the basis of these procedures, which included:

- examining, on a test basis, information to provide evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial report, and
- assessing the appropriateness of the accounting policies and disclosures used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the directors.

While we considered the effectiveness of management's internal controls over financial reporting when determining the nature and extent of our procedures, our audit was not designed to provide assurance on internal controls.

Our audit did not involve an analysis of the prudence of business decisions made by management of Consumers' Health Forum of Australia Incorporated.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been : above basis.

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Level 7, 28 University Ave | Canberra City | ACT 2601
GPO Box 588 | Canberra City | ACT 2601

Liability is limited by the Accountants Scheme,
approved under the Professional Standards Act 1994 (NSW)

PARTNERS:
Ross Di Bartolo B.A (Accounting). FCA
George Diamond B.Ec. FCA
John Mihailaros B.Comm (Accounting). CA

A Member Firm of PKF International

Independence

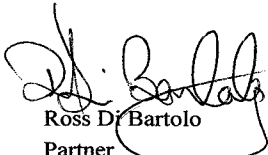
In conducting our audit, we followed applicable independence requirements of Australian professional ethical pronouncements.

AUDIT OPINION

In our opinion, the financial report of Consumers' Health Forum of Australia Incorporated is in accordance with:

- (a) the *Incorporations Association (ACT) Act 1991*, including:
 - (i) giving a true and fair view of the association financial position as at 30 June 2006 and of its performance for the year ended on that date; and
 - (ii) complying with Accounting Standards in Australia
- (b) other mandatory financial reporting requirements in Australia.

PKF Di Bartolo Diamond & Mihailaros



Ross Di Bartolo
Partner
Date: 29.9.2006

Canberra
GPO Box 588
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Di Bartolo Diamond & Mihailaros

An Australian Capital Territory Partnership



Chartered Accountants
& Business Advisers

DISCLAIMER OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONSUMERS' HEALTH FORUM OF AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED

The additional financial data presented is in accordance with the books and records of the association, which have been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in our statutory audit of the association for the financial year ended 30 June 2006. It will be appreciated that our audit did not cover all details of the additional financial data. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on such financial data and we give no warranty of accuracy or reliability in respect of the data provided. Neither the firm nor any member or employee of the firm undertakes responsibility in any way whatsoever to any person (other than Consumers' Health Forum of Australia Incorporated) in respect of such data, including any errors of omissions therein however caused.

PKF Di Bartolo Diamond & Mihailaros
GPO Box 588
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Ross Di Bartolo

Partner

Canberra

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PARTNERS:
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George Diamond B.Ec. FCA
John Mihailaros B.Comm (Accounting). CA

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CONSUMERS' HEALTH FORUM OF AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED
ABN 59 369 286 137

DETAILED PROFIT AND LOSS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2006

	2006	2005
	\$	\$
INCOME		
Grants	923,457	919,202
Publications and journal subscriptions	8,574	13,027
Membership fees	29,169	27,886
Interest	6,653	4,448
Profit/(Loss) on disposal of equipment	(417)	-
Other	10,421	5,564
TOTAL INCOME	977,857	970,127
LESS EXPENSES		
Annual report	1,908	3,391
Audit fees	5,400	5,995
Bookkeeping fees	12,242	11,187
Bank charges	1,725	2,279
Computer expenses	300	895
Consultants	28,908	40,100
Contract staff	19,193	38,385
Depreciation	19,595	24,315
Finance lease charges	5,438	7,643
Governance expenses	53,731	62,672
Information Technology upgrades	9,485	7,958
Insurance	14,762	21,862
Publication expenses	27,277	31,415
Legal costs	3,500	3,008
Minor equipment purchases	598	2,031
Other expenses	-	69
Postage and couriers	6,677	4,483
Printing and stationery	8,547	22,098
Rent and on costs	69,378	68,336
Repairs and maintenance	6,199	7,500
Salaries and on costs	495,865	497,364
Sitting Fees	3,288	-
Subscriptions	591	131
Telephone	8,624	10,047
Training expenses	7,355	341
Travel	21,674	29,413
Workshop expenses	113,472	94,162
TOTAL EXPENSES	945,732	997,080
NET OPERATING SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	32,125	(26,953)

These financial statements should be read in conjunction with the attached Disclaimer.

Appendices

CHF Key Presentations, Submissions and Publications

Key Presentations

Mitch Messer, CHF Chairperson

National Prescribing Services (NPS) Summit:
Informing Judgements about Medicines
Changing information needs of consumers
September 2005

New Zealand Guidelines Group National
Consumers Summit, 'Strengthening Consumer
Voices', Auckland

Consumers shaping health in Australia
October 2005

Australian Institute of Health Policies Studies –
3rd National Health Policy Roundtable
Consumers Shaping Health in Australia
November 2005

ASCEPT-APSA ASM Conference 2005
Consumers must participate in research to
overcome barriers to access to medicines
December 2005

Association of Regulatory and Clinical Scientists
(ARCS) 2006 Annual Scientific Congress, Sydney
Consumer Access to Medical Information
June 2006

Diane Walsh, CHF Governing Committee

ARCHI and Mater Centre for Integrated Health
Care and General Practice National Health Care
Reform Conference, Pushing the Boundaries,
Adelaide

Australian Health Policy Reform: Big Band or
Remodel by Stealth?
September 2005

Helen Hopkins, Executive Director

Australian Association for Quality in Health Care
and the Australian Health Care Association – 3rd
Australasian Conference on Safety and Quality
in Health Care

Consumers, new technology and improved
safety
July 2005

National Prescribing Services (NPS) Summit:
Informing Judgements about Medicines
Informing consumers' judgements – managing
pain, medicines, health and life
September 2005

AARP Conference, Does IT Work? Next
Generation Care', Washington DC, USA
Consumers shaping health IT in Australia
March 2006

Melanie Cantwell, Director Policy & Projects

Medicines Australia – Health Consumer
Organisation and Pharmaceutical Industry
Forum: Critical Issues and Common Challenges.
Presentations on Consumers shaping health in
Australia; and Working Together; A Guide to
relationships between Health Consumer
Organisations and Pharmaceutical Companies
November 2005

National Primary Care Collaboratives (NPCC)
Learning Workshop Three, Melbourne
Patient involvement in primary care
May 2006

National Prescribing Service and PHARM National
Medicines Symposium

- Partnerships in action: NPS and CHF
 - A community engagement approach to
support quality use of medicines in rural areas
with hard to reach communities
- June 2006

Key Submissions and Publications

CHF Submission *HealthConnect Tasmania*
HealthConnect Tasmania Business Plan 2005-06
on consumer participation in implementation
August 2005

Australian Parliamentary Inquiry
CHF Summary Document and Public Hearing –
Inquiry into Health Funding
September 2005

CHF/Medicines Australia
'Working Together' A Guide to relationships
between Health Consumer Organisations and
Pharmaceutical Companies
November 2005

Australian Competition and Consumer
Commission
CHF letter re application by Medicines Australia
for revocation and substitution of
authorisation of their Code of Conduct
December 2005

Therapeutic Goods Administration
Consumer input to TGA processes including CHF
Summary Evaluation of 2002-04 Pilot Project
March 2006

CHF Members

CHF comprises a wide variety of consumer organisations with an interest in health, including illness groups, disability groups and specific population groups such as youth, older people and women.

Voting Members

Voting members of CHF are organisations that:

- represent consumer and community opinions and do not act primarily as representing professional, provider or commercial interests
- have membership open to consumers who can be elected to the board or governing body of the organisation
- have aims and objectives that are significantly for representation of the opinions of consumers, and
- fully support the aims and objectives of the Consumers' Health Forum of Australia.

A

ACCESS Australia's National Infertility Network Ltd
AIDS Council of NSW
Arthritis Australia
Arthritis Foundation WA
Arthritis NSW
Arthritis Victoria
Asthma Foundations of Australia
Australian Association for the Welfare of Child Health
Australian Breastfeeding Association
Australian Council of Social Service (ACOSS)
Australian Crohns & Colitis Association
Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations
Australian Hepatitis Council
Australian Pensioners and Superannuants Federation Inc
Australian Primary Care Community Partnership Incorporated

B

Breast Cancer Action Group (NSW)
Breast Cancer Action Group Inc
Breast Cancer Network Australia

C

Cancer Voices NSW
Carers Australia
Child Health Association Inc
Chronic Illness Alliance Inc
CJD Support Group Network Pty Ltd
Cochrane Consumer Network (CCNet)
Coeliac Society of NSW Inc
Consumer Reference Group of the Top End Division of General Practice
Continence Foundation of Australia Ltd
COTA National Seniors
Council on the Ageing (COTA) (SA)
Cystic Fibrosis Australia Inc
Cystic Fibrosis Victoria Inc
Cystic Fibrosis Western Australia

D

DES Action Australia – NSW
Diabetes – SA
Diabetes Australia – NSW
Diabetes Australia National

F

Federation of Ethnic Communities Councils of Australia

H

Haemophilia Foundation Australia
Health Care Consumers' Association of the ACT
Health Consumers Alliance of South Australia Inc
Health Consumers' Council (WA) Inc
Health Consumers of Rural and Remote Australia Inc
Health Consumers Voice NT
Health Issues Centre Inc
Health Rights & Community Action
Heart Support Australia Ltd

I

Illawarra Stroke Unit Project

L

Lymphoedema Support Group of NSW

M

Maternity Coalition Inc
ME/CFS Society (SA) Inc
ME/CFS/FM Support Association Qld Inc
ME/Chronic Fatigue Syndrome Association of Australia Ltd
Mental Health Co-ordinating Council
Mental Illness Fellowship of Australia

N

National Association of People Living with HIV/AIDS
National SIDS Council of Australia
NSW Council of Social Service (NCOSS)

O

Obsessive Compulsive Disorders Support Service
Older Persons' Action Centre
Older Women's Network (Australia)

P

Palliative Care Australia
People Living With HIV/AIDS (NSW) Inc
Post-Polio Network (NSW) Inc
Public Interest Advocacy Centre

S

SHOUT (Self Help Organisations United Together)
Sleep Apnoea Association (ACT) Inc
South Australian Consumer Reps Network
Stillbirth and Neo-natal Death Support (Qld) Inc
Stroke Association of ACT
Support & Advocacy Committee of Prostate
Cancer Foundation of Australia

T

Tasmanians with Disabilities Inc
The Link Youth Health Service

W

WA Association for Mental Health
Wollongong Health Consumers
Women's Health Victoria Inc

Organisational Members

Organisational members are organisations with an interest in consumer health issues.

A

Alliance of NSW Divisions Ltd
Association of Professional Engineers, Scientists and Managers, Australia
Asthma Foundation of Victoria
Australasian Lymphology Association
Australian Association of Consultant Pharmacy
Australian Council Against Health Fraud
Australian Crohns & Colitis Association (Qld) Inc
Australian Divisions of General Practice Ltd
Australian Healthcare Association
Australian Nursing Federation (Vic Branch)
Australian Physiotherapy Association
Australian Self-Medication Industry Inc (ASMI)

C

Cancer Council Australia
Cancer Council NSW
Cancer Council of WA
Cancer Council South Australia
Central Eastern Primary Health Care Service
Central Northern Primary Health Care Services – North/North East
Central Sydney Division of General Practice

D

DepressioNet

E

Epilepsy Association of SA & NT Inc

F

Fitness Australia

G

Government Relations and Planning
Greater Bunbury Division of General Practice
Greater Metropolitan Clinical Taskforce Consumer Forum

H

Health Consumers Network
Health Promotion Service
Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Ryde Division of General Practice

I

Illawarra Division of General Practice

K

Kidney Health Australia

L

Little Company of Mary Health Care Ltd
Liverpool Women's Health Centre

M

Mallee Division of General Practice
Mornington Peninsula Division of General Practice

N

National Asthma Council Australia
National Breast Cancer Centre
National Heart Foundation of Australia
National Prescribing Service
North East Valley Division of General Practice
North Shoalhaven Health Consumer Action Group
North West Melbourne Division of General Practice
Northern Sydney Central Coast Health
NSW Nurses' Association
NSW Therapeutic Assessment Group Inc

P

Partners in Pain (PIP's) Support Group
Pharmaceutical Society of Australia
Pharmacy Guild of Australia (National Secretariat)
Pomona and District Community House Inc

Q

Queensland Cancer Fund

R

Redcliffe Bribe Caboolture Division of General Practice
Royal Australasian College of Surgeons
Royal College of Nursing, Australia
Rural Doctors Association of Australia

S

School of Population Health, University of Western Australia
Sexual Health & Family Planning Australia Inc
Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia
South East Area Health Service
Southern Tasmanian Division of General Practice
Spinal Injuries Association
St George District Division of General Practice
St Joseph's Hospital
Sunshine Coast Division of General Practice
Sydney South West Area Health Service
Sydney West Area Health Service Consumer Participation

T

Tasmanian Council of Social Service
Telephone Information Support and Counselling Association
Toora Women Inc

W

West Victorian Division of General Practice
Wingecarribee Health Service
Women with Disabilities Australia
Women's Health Queensland Wide Inc

Corporate Members

GlaxoSmithKline
Merck Sharp & Dohme (Australia) Pty Limited
Pfizer Australia
Sydney Legacy Appeals Fund
The Pharmaceutical Alliance

Individual Members

There are also 65 Individual Members.

Consumer Representatives

Health consumer representatives have an important role in shaping health in Australia. Through CHF, health consumers are represented on 209 Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing, professional, and research project committees.

Consumer representatives are selected by canvassing member organisations for people with the interest, skills and experience to make an effective contribution to the work of the committee or working party. The Consumer Representatives Sub-committee of the CHF Governing Committee uses set consumer selection criteria to assess expressions of interest and select the successful nominee.

In 2004–2005, consumer representatives contributed to the development of the new continuous quality improvement policy which will be implemented in 2005–06 to improve effectiveness and efficiency in the Consumer Representatives Program.

CHF extends its thanks and appreciation to all Consumer Representatives for their dedication, enthusiasm and time devoted to the cause of consumer participation.

Australasian Lymphology Association

Council

Anna Wellings Booth

Australian Cancer Network

ACN Council

Sally Crossing AM

Australian Council for Safety and Quality in Healthcare (Safety and Quality Council)

Safety and Quality Council – Clinical Leadership Program Project Steering Committee

Jennifer Ball (to December 2005)

Safety and Quality Council – Consumer Advisory Committee

Maxine Drake

Helen Hopkins

Safety and Quality Council – Healthy Hospitals Working Group

Jennifer Ball

Australian Council on Healthcare Standards (ACHS)

Australian Council on Healthcare Standards (ACHS)

Russell McGowan

ACHS Clinical Indicator Working Parties

Janet Wale

ACHS Standards Committee

Ann Thomson

ACHS/Centre for Clinical Governance Research in Health (University of NSW)

National Health Accreditation Study Consumer Advisory Panel

Anne Johnson

Betty Johnson

Kathy Kendell

Kathleen McLure

Keith Williams

Australian Divisions of General Practice (ADGP)

ADGP Board of Directors

Russell McGowan

ADGP National Divisions Forum Steering Committee 2005

Tim Benson

ADGP National Divisions Forum Steering Committee 2006

Judith Skinner OAM

Australian General Practice Accreditation Ltd (AGPAL)

AGPAL Board

Christopher Newell AM

Australian GP Statistics and Classification Centre, University of Sydney

BEACH Advisory Board

Suzanne Solvyns

Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing

Australian Technical Advisory Group on

Immunisation

Jenni Howlett

Broadband for Health Working Group

Amy Zelmer

Chlamydia Program Implementation Committee

Marilyn Kench

Enhanced Divisional Quality Use of Medicines (EDQUM) Program Steering Group
Nancy Pierce

HealthInsite Editorial Board
Sue Healy
Betty Johnson

National Immunisation Committee
Judith Skinner OAM

National Influenza Pandemic Action Committee
Kirsty Machon

National Pathology Accreditation Advisory Council
Janet Wale

Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee
Mitch Messer

Pharmaceutical Benefits Pricing Authority
Jo Watson

Private Sector Outreach Services Working Group
Valerie McKeown

Prostheses and Devices Ministerial Advisory Committee
Karen Carey-Hazell

Prostheses Clinical Advisory Group – Cardiac
Jill Forck

Prostheses Clinical Advisory Group – Cardio Thoracic
Niall Gossland

Prostheses Clinical Advisory Group – Hip and Knee Accessories
Janet Wale

Prostheses Clinical Advisory Group – Lens
Karen Carey-Hazell (to May 2006)

Prostheses Clinical Advisory Group – Orthopaedic (Hips)
Rebecca Coghlan

Prostheses Clinical Advisory Group – Orthopaedic (Knees)
Janet Wale

Prostheses Clinical Advisory Group – Spinal
Rebecca Coghlan

Prostheses Clinical Advisory Group – Urogenital
Robert Shanks (to November 2005)
Dennis Roy

Prostheses Clinical Advisory Group – Vascular Stents and Grafts
Jill Forck

Prostheses Policy Advisory Group
Karen Carey-Hazell

Quality Use of Pathology Committee
Janet Wale

Quality Use of Pathology Point of Care Testing (POCT) Steering Group
Roger Killeen

Australian Health Ministers Advisory Council (AHMAC)

Australian Health Information Council (AHIC)
Helen Hopkins

AHIC Clinical Register Governance Reference Group
Amy Zelmer

AHIC Electronic Decision Support Steering Committee
Susan Mitchell

AHIC Health Information Workforce Capacity Building Work Group
Heather Grain

AHMAC Medical Specialist Training Steering Committee
Sheila Rimmer AM

AHMAC Medical Specialist Training Steering Committee - Reference Group 1: Risk Assessment
Sheila Rimmer AM

AHMAC Medical Specialist Training Steering Committee: Reference Group 2: Service Delivery in Public Hospitals
Robin Toohey AM

AHMAC National Oral Health Plan Monitoring Group
Samantha Edmonds

AHWAC Perioperative Working Group
Valerie McKeown

AHWAC Working Group on the Implementation of a National Database
Dell Horey

Australian Screening Advisory Committee (ASAC)
Roberta Higginson
Russell McGowan

ASAC Communication and Education Working Group
Anna Wellings Booth
Don Baumber

ASAC Monitoring and Evaluation Working Group
Susan Pitt

ASAC Policy Review and New Technologies Working Group
Sue Lockwood

ASAC Quality Assurance and Workforce Working Group
Judith Maher

National Health Performance Committee (NHPC)
Shirley Shaw

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare*Health Data Standards Committee*

Heather Grain

Australian Medical Council (AMC)*Australian Medical Council (AMC)*

Assoc Professor Christopher Newell AM (to November 2005)

Diane Walsh

AMC Addiction Medicine Recognition Review Group

Barbara Joss

AMC Sexual Health Recognition Review Group

John Ramsay

AMC Education Accreditation (General)

Susan Mitchell

AMC Education Accreditation (Specialist)

Derek Weir (to November 2005)

Mary Corich (to November 2005)

Isabelita McRae

Sheila Rimmer AM

AMC General Practice Accreditation Team

Russell McGowan

AMC Pathology Accreditation Team

Roslyn Lawson

AMC Recognition of Medical Specialties Advisory Committee

Rebecca Coghlan

Robin Toohey AM

AMC Sport and Exercise Medicine Recognition Review Group

Tricia Greenway

AMC Assessment Team for School of Medicine at University Wollongong

Noelene Burt

AMC Working Party to Review the AMC standards of accreditation of specialist medical training programs

Antonio Russo

Australian National University*Australian General Practice Nursing Study Reference Group*

Susan Mitchell

Community Liaison Committee

Susan Mitchell

Australian Patient Safety Foundation*Australian Patient Safety Foundation Inc Council*

Margaret Charlton

Australian Pharmaceutical Advisory Council (APAC)*Australian Pharmaceutical Advisory Council (APAC)*

Mitch Messer

APAC Consumer Medicine Information (CMI) Working Party

Melanie Cantwell

Cancer Council NSW*Cancer Council Board*

Sally Crossing AM

Clinical Leadership Programme in Australia*National Advisory Committee*

Susan Mitchell

Continence Foundation of Australia*Consumer Advisory Committee*

Shirley Shaw

Frank Ritchie

Dietitians Association of Australia*Council of Dietetic Standards Recognition*

Sheila Rimmer AM

Flinders University of South Australia*Consumer/Community Involvement in Divisions of General Practice Research Project Critical Reference Group*

Shirley Shaw

Knowledge Network Management Group

Robin Toohey AM

General Practice Education and Training (GPET)*General Practice Education and Training Consultative Group*

Diane Walsh

Medicare Australia (formerly Health Insurance Commission)*HIC Stakeholder Advisory Group*

Debra O'Connor

Medicare Australia Consumer Communication Group

Diane Walsh

Medical Industry Associations of Australia and New Zealand*Code of Practice Committee*

Ben Horgan

Medical Services Advisory Committee (MSAC)*Medical Services Advisory Committee (MSAC)*

Sheila Rimmer AM

MSAC Application 1098 – Breast MRI

Margaret Tassell

MSAC Application 1102 – Double Balloon Electronic Enteroscopy System
Barry Cahill

MSAC Application 1103 – Pre-term labour test for fetal fibronectin
Diane Walsh

MSAC Application 1104 – Endoscopic Ultrasound and Fine Needle Aspiration for Lung Cancer
Robin Toohey AM

MSAC Artificial Invertebral Disc Replacement (Application 1090)
Rebecca Coghlan (to October 2005)

MSAC Carbon Labelled Urea Breath Test (Application 1085)
Valerie McKeown (to December 2005)

MSAC Computed Tomography Colonography (Review of Application 1095)
Barbara Joss

MSAC Deep Brain Stimulation for the Symptoms of Parkinson's Disease (Application No 1092)
Valerie McKeown (to May 2006)

MSAC Endoscopic Ultrasound for Staging Pancreatic, Gastric, Oesophageal and Hepatobiliary Neoplasms (Application 1072)
Barbara Joss

MSAC Endovascular Neurointerventional Procedures (Review of Application 1093)
Barbara Smith

MSAC Gamma Knife Stereotactic Radiosurgery (Review of Reference 34)
Judith Maher

MSAC Hepatitis B DNA Testing (Application 1097)
Janet Wale

MSAC High Energy Water Cooled Transurethral Microwave Thermotherapy (Application 1076)
Don Baumber

MSAC Injectable silicone biomaterial for severe passive faecal incontinence (Application 1100)
Sheila Rimmer AM

MSAC Intacs Implants (Application 1083)
Craig Ellis

MSAC Measurement of B-type Natriuretic Peptide (BNOP) (Application 1087)
Paula Calcino

MSAC Minimally Invasive Robotic Assisted Radical Prostatectomy (Application 1091)
Keith Williams

MSAC Non-fusion Stabilisation Device (Application 1099)
Robin Toohey AM

MSAC Peripheral Arterial Tonometry with Ascending Aortic Waveform Analysis using the SphygmoCor System (Application 1079)
Richard McCluskey

MSAC Permanent Tri-Chamber Resynchronisation Committee (Application 1042)
Ivan Kayne

MSAC Reference 35 – PET for Colorectal Cancer and Melanoma
Brian Stafford

MSAC Review of Application 1101 – Repetitive Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (rTMS)
Margaret Springgay

MSAC Review of Application 1105 – Computed Tomography Coronary Angiogram
Sheila Rimmer AM

MSAC Review of Application 1105 – Computed Tomography Coronary Angiogram
Richard McCluskey

MSAC Review of Magnetic Resonance Cholangiopancreatography (Reference 25)
Leo Pomery

MSAC Sacral Nerve Stimulation for Faecal Incontinence (Application 1077)
Elizabeth Symons

MSAC Treatment of Cerebral Aneurysms (Reference 33)
Barbara Smith

MSAC Uro Vision Fluorescence In situ Hybridization (FISH) Assay (Application 1084)
Craig Ellis

MSAC Uterine Artery Embolisation (Application 1081)
Jo-Anne Tamlyn

MSAC Vertebroplasty Supporting Committee (Reference 27)
Valerie McKeown

Medicines Australia

CHF/Medicines Australia Guidelines for Working Together: A Guide to Relationships between Health Consumer Organisations and Pharmaceutical Companies
Sheila Rimmer AM

Janet Wale
Melanie Cantwell

Medicines Australia Code of Conduct Committee
Sharon Caris

Code of Conduct Appeals Committee

Anne McKenzie

Health Forum Steering Committee

Melanie Cantwell

Mental Health Council of Australia

National Consumer and Carer Forum

Janet Meagher AM

National Blood Authority

Professional and Community Advisory Forum

Kay Robinson

National E-Health Transition Authority

(NeHTA)

NEHTA Clinician and Consumer Discussion

Forums

Amanda Bresnan

Samantha Edmonds

Ben Horgan

Anna Johnston

Bernard Kealey

Anne McKenzie

Coral Rizzali

Terry Udy

**National Health and Medical Research Council
(NHMRC)**

National Health and Medical Research Council

(NHMRC)

Michele Kosky (to June 2006)

Christopher Newell AM

Australian Health Ethics Committee (AHEC)

Organ Donation Working Party

Mardi Thompson

*Australian Health Ethics Committee (AHEC) Post
Coma Unresponsiveness Working Party*

Michele Kosky

*NHMRC Expert Advisory Group on Antimicrobial
Resistance*

Frank Fisher

*NHMRC Licensing Committee for Use of Excess
ART Embryos*

Christopher Newell AM

Julia Nicholls

*NHMRC Special Expert Committee on
Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies
(SECTSE)*

Sharon Caris

*NHMRC Technical Working Party on Intravenous
Immunoglobulin*

Dawn Thorp (to December 2005)

NHMRC Privacy Working Committee 2006-08

Melanie Cantwell

**National Health Priority Action Council
(NHPAC)**

National Health Priority Action Council (NHPAC)

Karen Carey-Hazell

NHPAC Cancer Strategies Group

Clive Deverall

NHPAC Examining Trauma Care

Heather Grain

*NHPAC National Arthritis and Musculoskeletal
Conditions Advisory Group*

Fay Gale

*NHPAC National Cardiovascular & Stroke
Strategies Group*

Karen Carey-Hazell

National Prescribing Service (NPS)

National Prescribing Service (NPS) Board Director

Janette Donovan

*National Prescribing Service (NPS) Board
Alternate Director*

Diane Walsh

NPS Australian Prescriber Editorial Advisory Panel

Christopher Newell AM

NPS Curriculum and Training Working Group

Rebecca Coghlan (to October 2005)

Antonio Russo

*NPS Management Committee for the Community
Quality Use of Medicines Program*

Matthew Hunt

Alison Marcus

Sheila Rimmer AM

Moya Sandow

Christine Walker

Diane Walsh

NPS Medicines Line Management Committee

Diane Walsh

NPS New Drugs Working Group

Melanie Cantwell

*NPS Pharmaceutical Decision Support Working
Group*

Anne McKenzie

*NPS Pharmacy Program Prescribing Interventions
& Feedback*

Nancy Pierce

*NPS Program Information/Communication
Working Group*

Janette Donovan

NSW Therapeutic Advisory Group

Performance Indicator and Medication Safety Project (PIMS) Steering Committee
Noelene Burt

Pharmaceutical Industry

Quality Assurance Reference Group (QARG) (Consumer Medicines Information)
Diana Aspinall

Therapeutic Goods Advertising Code Council
Alan Barclay

Therapeutic Goods Advertising Code Council (TGACC) Complaints Resolution Panel (CRP)
Judith Maher

Pharmacy Guild of Australia (PGA)

PGA Evaluation of the Home Medicines Review Program
Judith Skinner OAM (to August 2005)

PGA Expert Advisory Group for Consumer Experiences, Needs and Expectations of Community Pharmacy Project
Melanie Cantwell (to March 2006)

PGA Expert Advisory Group for Consumer Experiences, Needs and Expectations of Community Pharmacy Project
Judith Skinner OAM (to March 2006)

PGA Expert Advisory Group for Weight Management Project
Valerie McKeown (to June 2006)

Royal Australasian College of Physicians (RACP)

Arthritis and Musculoskeletal Conditions Quality Improvement Project (AMQuIP) Advisory Committee
Janet Wale

RACP Australasian Rehabilitation Outcomes Centre Scientific and Clinical Outcomes Committee
Shirley Shaw

Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists (RANZCR)

RANZCR Consumer Awareness Strategy Reference Group Quality Use of Diagnostic Imaging (QUDI)
Keith Williams

RANZCR Curriculum Advisory Committee
Pam Bell

RANZCR Quality Use of Diagnostic Imaging (QUDI) Program Advisory Group
Ann Revell

RANZCR Radiology Research Committee
Jude Maslin

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP)

RACGP Expert Group on Practice Standards
Robin Toohey AM

RACGP Quality in General Practice Committee
Mitch Messer

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP)/Royal Australian College of Nursing (RACN)

RACN Nursing in General Practice Project
Susan Mitchell

Standards Australia

Open Disclosure in Health Care
Heather Grain

Standards Australia IT/14 Health Informatics Committee
Heather Grain

Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA)

Complementary Medicines Evaluation Committee (CMEC)
Heather Yeatman

Complementary Medicines Implementation Reference Group (CMIRG)
Geraldine Robertson

TGA Industry Consultative Committee
Melanie Cantwell

Medical Devices Evaluation Committee
Frank Fisher

Medicines Evaluation Committee
Janette Donovan

TGA Child-Resistant Packaging Subcommittee
Alison Marcus

Therapeutic Goods Committee
John Stubbs

Joint Agency Establishment Group

Steering Group to implement the new trans-Tasman Regulatory Model for Advertising of Therapeutic Goods
Janne Graham AM
Judith Maher

Transplantation Society of Australia & New Zealand

Cardiothoracic Standing Committee
Richard McCluskey

VICFIT

Lifestyle Prescription Reference Group
Tim Benson
Judith Maher