

Appendix One

Minutes of the Pharmac Consumer Advisory Committee (CAC) Meeting Wednesday 8 October 2025

The meeting was held via teams from 09:30 am.

Present:

Robyn Manuel (Chair)
Vivien Verheijen
Pui-Yi-Cheng
Jesse Davis
Georgina Johnson

Pharmac staff in attendance

Nicola Ngawati (Director Equity and Engagement)
Natalie McMurtry (Chief Executive)
Mako Osborne (Implementation Advisor)
Jannel Fisher (Reset Programme Manager)

Apologies

Hazel Heal
LJ Apaipo

Karakia

The meeting was opened with karakia.

1. Interest register / notes from previous meeting / action items

Interest register

Noted.

Notes from previous meeting

Notes from the September 2025 meeting was approved as a true record of discussion.

Action items

The action items were reviewed.

Membership terms

The membership terms were reviewed.

Professional development report back

No update.

2. Meeting with CE

Following introductions from the committee members, the Chief Executive provided an overview of her background and experience.

3. CAC Chair update

The Chair provided an overview of the September Board meeting and noted several upcoming conferences including the 2026 Health Technology Assessment International Annual Meeting in Turkey, the 'Ō Mātou Reo: Our Voices 2025' event held by the Health Quality and Safety Commission and the 'Valuing Life – Medicines Access Summit 2025'.

The Chair noted that as part of a research council grant, she will be exploring a mātauranga Māori approach to health technology assessments (HTA), with a focus on integrating Māori voices and promoting equity. The project aims to engage with Māori experts in HTA to inform and shape the work.

4. Consumer Quality Safety Marker Self-Assessment update

Director Equity and Engagement provided an overview of Pharmac's fourth Consumer Quality Safety Marker (CQSM) self-assessment and sought the committee's endorsement of it.

Members acknowledged the efforts and progress made, specifically in relation to the engagement space and recognised that broader external changes could have an impact on the progress and on the perception of Pharmac.

Members recommended that the CQSM self-assessment refer to and be assessed against the NZ Triple Aim Framework.

5. Reset Programme update

Reset Programme Manager updated members on the progress of the first 90-day plan and the proposed actions for the second 90-day plan.

Members noted that there is room to improve transparency of decision making and strengthening cultural safety and equity.

Members highlighted their interest in having patient voices in clinical meetings and referenced the plain language summary of information to support patient group involvement in Health Technology Assessment.

Members also noted they were happy with the level of communication and updates.

6. Pharmac verbal update

Director Equity and Engagement gave a verbal update:

- A powhiri was held in September to welcome the new Chief Executive.
- Progress is being made to appoint Principal Advisors to the new External Engagement Team.

- On the recent decision by Minister to divide responsibilities between Health NZ and Pharmac when it comes to medical device procurement.
- Representatives from Pharmac's policy team attended the Medicines of Tomorrow Scanning Forum and the PharmAUS 2025 event in Canberra, Australia.
- Director Equity and Engagement presented a guest lecture to pharmacy students in their final year at the University of Otago School of Pharmacy on career pathways in Pharmac for pharmacy graduates
- On recent decisions from Board meetings on 29 and 30 September 2025.

Committee only time was held.