

MEDIA RELEASE

IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 2008

25 September 2008

A Public Voice in Medicines

Cancer Voices Australia (CVA) welcomes the announcement by the Minister for Health to allow consumers to comment on medicines being considered for listing on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS).

'This will be of particular interest to cancer patients' said John Newsom, Chair of CVA. 'Cancer patients will now have a better understanding of the process and we commend the efforts of cancer patients, advocacy groups and cancer organisations who have engaged with the Government and the Public Benefits Advisory Committee to achieve this policy change', John added.

CVA is well aware of the enormous burden the cost of cancer has on governments and the community and welcomes this decision.

For a cancer patient to have access to the drug listing process and be able to provide their 'patient impact statement' opens a new chapter in Government - consumer relations.

Future cancer patients will benefit from this decision at a time when it is most needed, John concluded

Ends.

Contact: John Stubbs, EO, Cancer Voices Australia, Mobile: 0407 075525