



Clarification and updates to the regulation of sunscreens

The Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) is the Australian Government authority responsible for evaluating, assessing and monitoring sunscreens in Australia.

The TGA reviewed the regulation of sunscreen products and invited feedback from stakeholders. The review aimed to:

1. Adopt the 2021 Sunscreen Standard, which set the current testing and labelling requirements for sunscreens.
2. Remove the category of 'exempt' sunscreens, which allowed sunscreen products with less than SPF4 that were on the market before 9 November 2012 to follow the outdated 1998 Sunscreen Standard and avoid being listed in the ARTG.
3. Clarify the indications (therapeutic uses) that sunscreens could claim. Three options were proposed for stakeholder consideration.

Cancer Council supported the proposed changes and made the following additional comments:

We cautioned that some product formats, such as aerosols, should be carefully evaluated before being allowed in the market, because they present difficulties in applying the adequate amount and achieving the sufficient SPF coverage for consumer protection and efficacy standards.

We believe that introducing new indications could lead to confusion, misinformation, and unintended consequences for consumers.

For further information, visit the TGA's [consultation page](#).