

28 July 2017

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### **Proposed scheduling of flubromazolam as a Class C1 controlled drug**

Dear Fraser

Thank you for inviting the New Zealand Medical Association (NZMA) to provide feedback on the above consultation. The NZMA is New Zealand's largest medical organisation, with more than 5,500 members from all areas of medicine. The NZMA aims to provide leadership of the medical profession, and to promote professional unity and values, and the health of all New Zealanders.

We understand that flubromazolam, a benzodiazepine, is produced as a research chemical with no known therapeutic benefit. It poses significant risks of harm due to its high potency, long lasting effects and ability to cause strong sedation and amnesia at low doses.

We note that the Expert Advisory Committee on Drugs concluded that, given the risks of dependency, misuse or illicit use, scheduling flubromazolam higher than a Class C5 controlled drug under the Misuse of Drugs Act 1975 would be appropriate. We strongly agree, and are fully supportive of the proposed to schedule flubromazolam as a Class C1 controlled drug under the Act.

We hope our feedback is helpful.

Yours sincerely



Dr Kate Baddock  
NZMA Chair