

ANIMAL MEDICINES AUSTRALIA WELCOMES APVMA ICT BUDGET FUNDING Proposed APVMA Board should not be funded by industry

Animal Medicines Australia (AMA) welcomed the Government's allocation of \$10.1 million over three years to improve the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority's (APVMA) Information and Communication Technology (ICT) system.

"AMA has long advocated for the regulator to be given the funds it needs to modernise and integrate its ICT systems. These investments will be critical components that will support ongoing improvements in APVMA efficiency," said AMA's Executive Director, Ben Stapley.

"It was also pleasing to see \$6.3 million to provide greater access to a broader range of uses for veterinary chemicals in minor species and animal health diseases.

"Continuing minor use funding will enable the veterinary medicines industry to work with key user groups to register medicines that may otherwise not be available," Mr Stapley said.

The one area of great concern for AMA in the Budget is the establishment of a Board.

He said recent timeframe performance indicates an improving trend, AMA would prefer to see targeted, careful and considered administrative and regulatory reforms. AMA has not identified a problem at the APVMA that would require an industry-funded board to resolve.

"The regulator is funded by industry," Mr Stapley said. "We have not asked for a Board, we don't want a Board, yet we find ourselves paying for another layer of bureaucracy and all from a Government that says it wants to remove red tape".

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[Animal Medicines Australia](#) is the peak body that represents the leaders of the animal health industry in Australia. Our member companies are responsible for a range of veterinary medicine products that prevent, control and cure disease across the companion animal and livestock sectors.