

Embargoed until 00.01 AEDT on Tuesday 19 November

Bristol Myers Squibb Australia Presents the Patient & Parliament Summit: *Partnering for Patients*

- ***Patients, Patient Organisations, and Policy makers discuss the role of the patient expert in their own healthcare journey and more broadly across the healthcare system.***
- ***Prof Richard Scolyer will provide the keynote address on Wednesday 20 November at the “Patient Showcase” at Parliament House***

Melbourne, Australia - Tuesday, 19 November: — Bristol Myers Squibb Australia is pleased to announce the third annual BMS Patient & Parliament Summit, taking place on 19 and 20 November 2024. The summit theme, *Partnering for Patients* reflects the increasingly important role patients have in their own healthcare, as well as the critical role of the patient voice in the broader healthcare system. The value that patients can bring clinical trial design and health technology assessment through engagement with policy makers, clinicians, industry, and other health stakeholders will be a key focus of the summit.

The summit will explore the importance of early and continuous engagement of patient communities and is particularly timely following the recent release of the Health Technology Assessment (HTA) policy and methods review report as well as the Enhance HTA report from the Enhanced Consumer Engagement Process. The summit will also provide a platform to unpack the recommendations in both reports and discuss plans for prioritisation and implementation.

The summit consists of three key events:

- **The Patient Showcase (Nov 20)** where over 25 patient groups, together with patient representatives will convene at Parliament to share their experiences and their organisation’s mission with MPs and senators. The event is supported by a number of parliamentary friendship groups, and it is anticipated that a number of members and senators will be in attendance.
 - **Prof Richard Scolyer** will be the keynote speaker at the Patient Showcase sharing his experience as both a researcher and a patient.
 - **The Hon Mark Butler MP, Minister for Health and Aged Care**, will address the Patient Showcase.
- **Patient meetings with MPs and Senators** in which patients will share their lived experiences with their Federal Member of Parliament to highlight the importance of the patient voice and demonstrate that patients are their own best advocates; and
- **Shaping Healthcare Together annual roundtable**, where we will discuss potential strategies and actions to enhance and support the capacity for early and continuous patient community engagement with the leaders of 25 Australian patient organisations.

The Patient & Parliament Summit provides a unique combination of information and insight exchange together with the opportunity to connect patients directly with parliamentarians.

Hayley Andersen, Director, Patient Advocacy & Policy, Bristol-Myers Squibb said: “With the release of the HTA review and Enhance HTA reports, the environment is primed for positive change with respect

to the engagement of patient communities in healthcare and healthcare systems, particularly with respect to HTA decision making and patient access to innovative medicines.

Coming together with key stakeholders at the summit represents an important opportunity to determine ways to advance healthcare reform that can best serve Australian patients”

James McAdam, Director, Government Affairs, Policy & Advocacy, Bristol Myers Squibb said “BMS is proud to provide a platform for patients and patient organisations to bring their messages direct to parliamentarians through The Patient & Parliament Summit program.”

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About Bristol-Myers Squibb

Bristol Myers Squibb is a global biopharmaceutical company whose mission is to discover, develop and deliver innovative medicines that help patients prevail over serious diseases. For more information about Bristol Myers Squibb, visit us at <https://www.bms.com/au>

If you would like any further information or to arrange an interview, please contact:

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