

9 January, 2019

Director, Scheduling Project Management  
Regulatory Engagement and Planning Branch, Regulatory Practice and Support Division  
Therapeutic Goods Administration  
PO Box 100  
WODEN ACT 2606

Submitted online

To whom it may concern

**Re: Letter in support of AFAO submission regarding alkyl nitrate reclassification**

ACON is Australia's largest community-based lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) health and HIV organisation. Incorporated in 1985 as the AIDS Council of NSW, ACON has been widely recognised as an innovative, successful organisation which has adapted to changes in the HIV epidemic and responded early to emerging health issues among our communities.

We are writing to endorse the submission of the Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations (AFAO) and the National LGBTI Health Alliance regarding the reclassification of alkyl nitrates as a Schedule 9 substance by the Australian Therapeutic Goods Administration.

ACON has a longstanding relationship with AFAO as the national peak body providing strategic direction on Australia's policy and advocacy response to HIV. As AFAO's largest member organisation, ACON engages directly with our communities through the provision of education, care and support and HIV testing services, as well as through data that informs the national HIV response.

In addition to endorsing AFAO's submission, we wish to support the contributions of the Nitrites Action Group, and support a recommendation made by this group to reclassify only isopropyl nitrate as a Schedule 9 substance. We believe that the reclassification of this specific compound, combined with increased community led education, regulation and harm reduction strategies concerning alkyl nitrates in general, would address all of the concerns expressed regarding their adverse effects.

If you would like to discuss this submission further, please do not hesitate to contact me on (02) 9206 2034 or [kprice@acon.org.au](mailto:kprice@acon.org.au).

Kind regards

  
Karen Price  
Acting Chief Executive Officer

**SYDNEY**  
414 Elizabeth Street,  
Surry Hills NSW 2010  
+612 9206 2000  
acon@acon.org.au

**HUNTER**  
129 Maitland Rd,  
Islington NSW 2296  
+612 4962 7700  
hunter@acon.org.au

**NORTHERN RIVERS**  
27 Uralba St,  
Lismore NSW 2480  
+612 6622 1555  
northernrivers@acon.org.au

**REGIONAL OUTREACH,  
SOUTHERN & FAR WEST**  
+612 9206 2114  
regionaloutreach@acon.org.au

**COFFS HARBOUR**  
+612 6651 6017  
mnc@acon.org.au

**WWW.ACON.ORG.AU**  
ABN 38 136 883 915  
Authority to Fundraise  
CFN/21473