

**HOME AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
AUSTRALIAN BORDER FORCE**

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY WRITTEN QUESTION ON NOTICE

Select Committee on Tobacco Harm Reduction

13 November 2020

Subject: Support from the Pharmaceutical industry

Asked by: Hollie Hughes

Question:

Have you or your organisation ever received direct or indirect support from the Pharmaceutical industry, including research grants, sponsorships, attendance at conferences or events, including from manufacturers of pharmacotherapies such as, but not limited to, Johnson & Johnson, Pfizer and GlaxoSmithKline?

Answer:

The Australian Border Force has had limited interactions with a range of pharmaceutical companies that have registered their Australian trademarks under the ABF's Notice of Objection Scheme. A registered Notice empowers ABF officers to seize suspected counterfeit goods at the border, to then refer on to both the importer and trademark holder for resolution.

Over the last decade, as part of the Notice of Objection Scheme, the ABF has been running an annual roadshow where all Notice holders are invited to travel to various regional ports with ABF headquarters staff and help train ABF frontline officers in how to identify counterfeits from legitimate products.

Pharmaceutical companies such as Unilever, Pfizer, Johnson and Johnson, Procter and Gamble, Astra Zeneca, Abraxis Bioscience, Bio-Medical Research Ltd, Bio-Oil, and Naos which have, or have had, Notices in place have occasionally taken part in the roadshow training.