

LETTERS



The Editorial Executive Committee welcomes letters, which should be less than 250 words. Before a decision to publish is made, letters which refer to a published article may be sent to the author for a response. Any letter may be sent to an expert for comment. When letters are published, they are usually accompanied in the same issue by any responses or comments. The Committee screens out discourteous, inaccurate or libellous statements. The letters are sub-edited before publication. Authors are required to declare any conflicts of interest. The Committee's decision on publication is final.

Letters to the Editor

Varenicline and Section 19A products for smoking cessation

Aust Prescr 2022;45:74

<https://doi.org/10.18773/austprescr.2022.028>

Regarding the article Optimal use of smoking cessation pharmacotherapy by Colin Mendelsohn,¹ it should be noted that, due to nitrosamine contamination, varenicline was recalled by its Australian sponsor in 2021, and the date of return is estimated to be in 2023. There are alternative Section 19A approved products available but,

as of the time of writing, these are not listed on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme, leaving patients with a significant out-of-pocket cost. Section 19A products are also by definition temporary supply products and liable to becoming unavailable themselves.

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REFERENCE

1. Mendelsohn C. Optimal use of smoking cessation pharmacotherapy. *Aust Prescr* 2022;45:10-14. <https://doi.org/10.18773/austprescr.2022.001>