

Marta Stybowski
SiSU Health Group
442 Auburn Rd
Hawthorn VIC 3122

T: [REDACTED]

E: [REDACTED]

28th September 2020

Mandy Bendelstein
Assistant Director | Merger & Authorisation Review Division
Australian Competition & Consumer Commission
Level 20 | 175 Pitt Street Sydney 2000
T: + 61 2 9102 4037
www.accc.gov.au

Dear Mandy,

Please find below our replies to the additional queries listed in your email Monday, 21 September 2020.

1. *Please estimate how many pharmacies nationally compete to supply prescription medications to consumers.*

There are approximately 5,700 community pharmacies in Australia (Pharmacy Guild of Australia https://www.guild.org.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0020/12908/Vital-facts-on-community-pharmacy.pdf)

2. *Please describe API's ownership structure. Are any individual pharmacies franchises, or are pharmacies ultimately API owned?*

API is an ASX listed public company that operates a franchise retail model. Pharmacies are owned by pharmacists, either as individual franchise owner operators, or owned in partnerships with other pharmacists.

Pharmacies are not owned by API. Pharmacy ownership is regulated by the States and Territories and strictly limits pharmacy ownership to registered pharmacists. These state-based regulations also determine the number of pharmacies an individual pharmacist may own in each state or territory.

3. *While we understand that SiSU may not have specific contact information for competitors, please provide contact information for industry participants and regulatory authorities that SiSU has dealt with in relation to the proposed conduct. Please provide at a minimum a contact name, email address and phone number to speed things up if the ACCC needs to consult with interested parties.*

Industry:

Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Authority

<https://www.ahpra.gov.au>

Ph: 1300 419 495

(no specific contact name available)

The Pharmacy Guild of Australia

<https://www.guild.org.au>

National Secretariat

Ph: 13 484 53

E: at@guild.org.au

(no specific contact name available)

The Pharmaceutical Society of Australia

<https://www.psa.org.au>

National office

Ph: 02 6283 4777

(no specific contact name available)

Medical Board of Australia

<https://www.medicalboard.gov.au>

Contact via Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Authority as indicated on website.

(no specific contact name available)

Australian Medical Association

<https://ama.com.au>

AMA Federal

Ph: 02 6270 5400

E: ama@ama.com.au

(no specific contact name available)

Symbion

<https://www.symbion.com.au>

Ph: 03 9918 5555

(no specific contact name available)

Sigma

<https://sigmahealthcare.com.au>

Ph: 03 9215 9215

(no specific contact name available)

Competitors:

Kin Fertility

<https://kinfertility.com.au>

E: hello@kinfertility.com.au

*no contact number available

(no specific contact name available)

Doctoroo

<https://www.doctoroo.com.au/online-doctor-prescriptions>

Ph: (02) 9159 6660

(no specific contact name available)

Instant Scripts

<https://www.instantscripts.com.au>

Ph: 1300 391 438

(no specific contact name available)

Pilot

<https://pilot.com.au>

E: gday@pilot.com.au

*no contact number available

(no specific contact name available)

Simple Online Doctor

<https://www.simpleonlinedoctor.com.au>

E: customerservices@simpleonlinedoctor.com.au

*no contact number available

(no specific contact name available)

Doctors on Demand

<https://www.doctorsondemand.com.au/patients/online-prescriptions>

Ph: 07 3638 9377

(no specific contact name available)

Qoctor

<https://www.qoctor.com.au/online-prescriptions>

Ph: (03) 8842 2895

(no specific contact name available)

Prime Medic

<https://www.primemedic.com.au/prescription>

Ph: 1800 957 508

E: admin@primemedic.com.au

(no specific contact name available)

Mosh

<https://www.getmosh.com.au>

*no direct email or phone number available – all enquiries via website

<https://www.getmosh.com.au/contact>

(no specific contact name available)

4. *At question 9 you refer to 'recent changes in prescription legislation'. Please identify this legislative change, and the regulator overseeing this change.*

Legislative changes were made in late 2019 that acknowledged the use of electronic prescriptions as an alternative to a paper-based prescription. Amendments to the *National Health (Pharmaceutical Benefits) Regulations 2017*, were published on 30 October 2019 and meant that electronic prescriptions were to be recognised as valid prescriptions.

The regulator overseeing this change was the Australian Government – Department of Health.

References:

<https://www.health.gov.au/initiatives-and-programs/electronic-prescribing>

<https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/F2019L01383>

In relation to query #3, as SiSU has not directly dealt with any of the key industry regulators or anticipated competitors, we do not have a specific contact name for each of the listed parties. In order to assist any further investigation that the ACCC may wish to undertake, we have supplied direct contact details where possible for each party, along with links to the relevant websites.

We trust this assists with our application and of course please do not hesitate to contact us should you require any further information.

Kind regards,

Marta Stybowski
BPharm MBA Cert IV TAE MPS
(on behalf of SiSU Health Group)