Pfizer Australia
38 - 42 Wharf Road
West Ryde NSW 2114
Australia

28 September 2015

Mr David Simmons
IP Australia
47 Bowes Street
Phillip ACT 2606

Via email: consultation@ipaustralia.gov.au

Dear Mr Simmons,

RE: Consultation on the Advisory Council on Intellectual Property's (ACIP) recommendation on the innovation patent system

Thank you for providing Pfizer Australia with the opportunity to make a submission to IP Australia's Consultation on ACIP's recommendation on the innovation patent system.

Pfizer Australia is one of Australia's leading providers of prescription medicines and consumer health products. We deliver medicines and vaccines that millions of Australians use every day to live longer, healthier and more productive lives. We are proud of the active role we play in Australia's health system and the wider contribution we make as an innovator, employer and manufacturer.

A strong, stable and predictable intellectual property system is critical to fostering local pharmaceutical innovation and, ultimately, increasing access to life-changing and life-saving medicines for Australian patients. Innovation patents play a small but nevertheless important role in this system.

Pfizer Australia is a member of Medicines Australia, the peak body representing innovative pharmaceutical companies in Australia. We support Medicines Australia’s submission and encourage IP Australia to carefully consider the recommendations presented within. Specifically, that:

- The innovation patent system is retained
- The changes proposed by ACIP in their 2014 final report are examined further to strengthen the innovation patents system; and
- Further data collection and analysis is required to better understand company experience and the economic benefits of using innovation patents.

Thank you again for the opportunity to contribute to this Review. Pfizer Australia is available at any time to provide further information.

Yours sincerely

Sana Rasool
Legal Director & Regional Legal Lead

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