



**SINGAPORE, 20 APRIL 2004  
HEALTH SCIENCES AUTHORITY**

**PRESS RELEASE**

## **HSA SEEKS FEEDBACK ON UPCOMING AMENDMENTS TO THE MEDICINES ACT**

The Health Sciences Authority (HSA) would like to invite feedback from the public on the draft Medicines (Amendment) Bill 2004. The draft Bill, released today, is available on the HSA website at [www.hsa.gov.sg](http://www.hsa.gov.sg) for viewing and feedback.

2 The draft Bill will strengthen the protection of pharmaceutical patents in Singapore, and contribute to Singapore's standing as a country with a strong patent protection regime. It will also make Singapore a more attractive site for research-based pharmaceutical companies to invest and establish research and development activities in.

3 Other than new requirements to clarify the patent status of each marketing approval application from pharmaceutical companies, the draft Bill will provide for the legal grounds to revoke a marketing approval when false declaration, which infringes a patent, has been made.

4 HSA encourages interested parties, pharmaceutical companies and the public to give feedback on the draft Medicines (Amendment) Bill 2004. The closing time/date for the submission of views and comments is on or before 12.00 noon, 3 May 2004.

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### **About the Health Sciences Authority**

At the Health Sciences Authority [HSA], we apply medical, pharmaceutical and specialised scientific expertise to safeguard public health and safety in Singapore. As one multidisciplinary agency, we serve as the national regulator of all therapeutic products by providing a seamless yet rigorous regulatory process to the healthcare and biomedical sciences industries. We also operate the national blood bank, Bloodbank@HSA, protecting the integrity of the nation's blood supply. As the national reference agency, we exploit specialised scientific, forensic, investigative and analytical capabilities in order to serve the administration of justice and enhance safety in our community. For more details, visit [www.hsa.gov.sg](http://www.hsa.gov.sg).