



Australian Government

Department of Health, Disability and Ageing
Office of the Gene Technology Regulator**Gene Technology Ethics and Community Consultative Committee**
Meeting of 25 February 2025
Communiqué

This Communiqué covers matters considered at the 21st meeting of the Gene Technology Ethics and Community Consultative Committee (25 February 2025)

Background

The Gene Technology Ethics and Community Consultative Committee (GTECCC) is a statutory advisory committee established under the *Gene Technology Act 2000* to provide advice on the request of the Gene Technology Regulator (Regulator) or the Gene Technology Ministers' Meeting, on issues of ethical or community concern relating to gene technology.

The purpose of this Communiqué is to provide Committee resolutions and a brief overview of the key matters considered by GTECCC at its 21st meeting, held on 25 February 2025.

GTECCC work plan

GTECCC considered submissions on its draft *Guidance for communicating on gene technology* (the Guidance) and associated case studies, which were received through a public call for comment. GTECCC developed a plan to finalise the Guidance, deciding to increase the emphasis in the document and case studies on reflective listening and bidirectional exchange. GTECCC considered that in addition to the primary audience who communicate about gene technology, professionals such as science communicators may also find the document useful. While publishing the Guidance is its priority, GTECCC decided that expanding further case studies would also be desirable.

Reports and other business

GTECCC received an overview of:

- key findings from the [2024 Community Attitudes Towards Gene Technology report](#)
- community interest in licence application [DIR-207](#) – Commercial release of a genetically modified (GM) mosquito strain to help prevent dengue outbreaks
- a misinformation article
- the Regulator's report on recent activities of the Office and commencement of amendments to the Gene Technology Regulations 2001
- the Gene Technology Technical Advisory Committee (GTTAC) cross-member's report on recent GTTAC activities.

**For all inquiries, please call the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator on
1800 181 030 (free-call) or email ogtr@health.gov.au**