SUBMISSION FOR THE 'HEALTH INSURANCE AMENDMENT (MEDICARE FUNDING FOR CERTAIN TYPES OF ABORTION) BILL 2013'

As a community mental health nurse I wish to make a submission regarding the Medicare funding of abortion based on gender selection.

I am well aware of the limited Medicare funding for valuable projects such as the Mental Health Nurse Incentive Program and many other worthy avenues that Medicare funding could be directed to. **Medicare should not pay for abortions especially those performed for the purpose of gender selection.**

There are many reasons for which abortion should be discouraged especially in view of recent research that shows that abortion may adversely affect a woman's health but most abhorrent is abortion based on gender selection.

In this time of fiscal restraint it imperative that Medicare funding is not spent on items that are unnecessary and indeed counterproductive to individual and community health and wellbeing.

Therefore I urge that the amendment to the 1973 act to not allow payment of medically induced terminations carried out on the basis of gender be accepted.