

22 August 2007

Mr Elton Humphery
Committee Secretary
Community Affairs Committee
Australian Senate
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

E-mail: community.affairs.sen@aph.gov.au

Dear Mr Humphery

Health Insurance Amendment (Medicare Dental Services) Bill 2007


Thank you for the invitation to provide a submission on issues relevant to the Australian Dental Council in relation to the inquiry by the Senate Community Affairs Committee into the Health Insurance Amendment (Medicare Dental Services) Bill 2007.

The Australian Dental Council (ADC) notes that the provisions of the Bill are intended to extend access to dental services for people with chronic conditions and complex care needs who are referred by their General Practitioner to a dentist.

The charter of the ADC is concerned with accreditation of education and training programs for dentists and other oral health professionals, and assessment and examination of overseas trained dentists wishing to practise in Australia. Although the functions of the ADC impact on the dental and oral health workforce in Australia, they are not directly related to dental services provision and associated public policy.

Accordingly, while the ADC supports measures to improve dental services for the Australian community, and is actively involved in national initiatives to address workforce issues, including responding to Government measures to establish new Dental Schools, we have no particular comment to make on the provisions of this Bill.

Yours sincerely



(Dr) Robert Broadbent
Chief Executive Officer

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