

I think that if medicare is to be made available to cover ANTENATAL and POSTNATAL then it would need to be for all midwives who are trained and practicing at the time of this change and that no midwife should be excluded from practicing in the way that has a history in this country of more than 30 yrs.

Doctor who provide a totally different expertize in the pregnancy phase have had medicare for years.  
MIDWIVES ARE NOT DOCTORS

WOMON WHO CHOOSE MIDWIFERY CARE NEED TO HAVE THE RIGHT TO DECIDE FOR THEMSELVES WHO THEY ATTEND AND FOR WHAT ASPECT OF PROFESSIONAL CARE. ITS NOT FOR WOMON WHO ACCESS TAX FUNDED MEDICARE TO NEED TO BE APPROVED BY ANOTHER PROFESSION (ie OBST / GP) to allow them to access this small refund

In other areas of life we are being encouraged to take responsibility for ourselve and be responsible YET when it comes to choosing a birth care provide and venue for birth someone else has a say and if we fail to follow those instructions we ase women and midwives will be facing large penalties.

give womon the right to a tax refund if they have a rec for a birth practioner be they doctor or midwife or consultant obst.

that would mean less paper work easy to facillitate and cost effective.

If no insurance is to be made available midwives or womon who birth at home why not run a campaign to let the community know

we midwives tell people we care for at 1st booking and they disengage care or continue its their choice and responsibility

Medicare per appt will be lots of red tape and confusing for people

pregnancy is an event that has an expiry date to care so +test to 6 weeks postnatal devide into parcels if you like  
If a womon NEEDS to see a consultant obst then of course that is in the budget of his salary or medicare catered for

re consider the way forward in this DIFFICULT TIME FOR MIDWIVES AND FAMILIES

NO ONE WANTS TO BE ILLEGAL

ROSEY SMART-VAHER