

The Secretary

Senate Finance & Public Administration Committee

Parliament House,

Canberra ACT 2600

I wish to table a submission on Medicare funding of second trimester abortions – Item 16525.

1. Medicare funding should not be used on procedure that may do more harm than good. Medicare funding should be used for healing with the view to full restoration to health and strength, for body and mind. The use of funding for procedures that have been shown to have adverse long term affects on a woman's health (with increased risk of depression and suicide, as well as breast cancer, miscarriage and premature delivery in subsequent pregnancies) is not an effective use of taxpayer's funds. Medicare funding to treat the after effects of the initial procedure then puts extra strain on a struggling system.
2. Medicare funding should not be used to pay for violent and cruel procedures in which death is the objective. Most taxpayers are glad to fund procedures for the alleviation of suffering, but the violent nature of this procedure on a baby which, if born via premature labour could well survive, is abhorrent. To partly deliver an unwanted, helpless baby, then barbarically crush its skull, or inject fatal doses of chemicals, or deliver and leave to die, is unworthy of a civilised society. To fund it via taxpayer funding, which we rightly expect is used for good, diminished the high calling of our government and the integrity of our leaders.
3. Medicare funding should not be used to pay for abortions for social reasons. In this day of great medical advances in so many areas, pregnancy is almost never a life-threatening condition. To cloak the validity of this procedure in these terms is blatantly dishonest. To stoop to such dishonesty again calls into question the integrity of the entire procedure and therefore the question – “Should taxpayers hard earned money be used in such dishonest ways?”
4. Medicare funding should not be used to pay for abortions for eugenic reasons. So many trivial “disabilities” are easily corrected with no long term effects to mother or child.

I respectfully submit this and support any move to disallow item 16525.

Mrs Uta Compton