

APPENDIX 1

LIST OF PUBLIC SUBMISSIONS, TABLED DOCUMENTS, SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION AND OTHER WRITTEN MATERIAL AUTHORISED FOR PUBLICATION BY THE COMMITTEE

- 1 Mr Michael F Waterhouse, PhD (QLD)
- 2 Ms Loris Erik Kent Hemlof, (SA)
- 3 Mr E D Webber, (NSW)
- 4 Dr Dorothy L Robinson, (NSW)
- 5 Australian Pensioners' and Superannuants' League Qld Inc. (QLD)
- 6 Dr Andrew Gault, (VIC)
- 6a Dr Andrew Gault, (VIC)
- 7 Dr Ian Cormack, QLD)
- 8 Ms Jean Hayes, (TAS)
- 9 Missionary Sisters of Service (QLD)
- 10 Dr Ruth Stewart, (VIC)
- 11 Dr Graeme Alexander, (TAS)
- 11a Dr Graeme Alexander, (TAS)
- 12 Alliance of New South Wales Divisions of General Practice (NSW)
- 13 Dr Chris Boyle, (NSW)
- 14 Dr Rowena Ryan, (VIC)
- 17 Ms Jane Smith, (TAS)
- 18 Ms Michelle Kaden, (TAS)
- 19 Dr Warwick Carter, (QLD)
- 20 Ms Wendy Flannery, (QLD)
- 21 Ms Kate Thomas, (NSW)
- 22 Mr John Stafford, (QLD)
- 23 NSW Retired Teachers Association (NSW)
- 24 Yorke Peninsula Division of General Practice Inc (SA)

Tabled at Adelaide Public Hearing 30.7.03

- Opening statement
- Health Services Map, related press clipping

- 25 Doctors Reform Society (NSW)
- 26 Ms Catriona Caw, (NSW)
- 27 Ms Prudence Watson, (NSW)
- 28 Mr Edward Boyapati, (VIC)
- 29 Dr Nirmala Valleru, (VIC)
- 30 Dr Ian Readett, (TAS)

- 31 Mr J D Potts, (VIC)
32 Queensland Government (QLD)
Tabled at Brisbane Public Hearing 26.8.03
- Opening remarks and overheads and graphs on Queensland public hospital expenditure
- 33 SA Divisions of General Practice Inc (SA)
33a SA Divisions of General Practice Inc (SA)
34 Eurobodalla Greens (NSW)
35 Australian Political Ministry Network Ltd (PolMin) (NSW)
36 Eastern Riverina Greens (NSW)
37 Australian Divisions of General Practice Ltd (ACT)
37a Australian Division of General Practice Ltd (ACT)
38 Geelong West Branch of the ALP (VIC)
39 Darebin City Council (VIC)
40 Darebin Community Health Service Inc (VIC)
41 Ms Sonia Hamill, (VIC)
42 Ms Genevieve Caffery, (QLD)
43 Ms Judy Thallur, (SA)
44 Dr Robert Walker, (TAS)
Tabled at Hobart Public Hearing 31.7.03
- Opening statement
- 45 Women's Health Victoria (VIC)
46 Mr Ange Kenor, (VIC)
47 Public Hospitals, Health & Medicare Alliance of Queensland (QLD)
Tabled at Brisbane Public Hearing 26.8.03
- Copy of article 'Down the Gurgler?', Tracy Schrader, New Doctor 79, Winter 2003
- 48 The Australian College of Non Vocationally Registered General Practitioners Inc (SA)
Tabled at Adelaide Public Hearing 30.7.03
- Opening presentation by Dr Moxham
 - Various graphs
- Supplementary information*
- Department of Health and Aged Care Occasional Paper New Series No 12 August 2001 – containing statistical information
- 48a The Australian College of Non Vocationally Registered General Practitioners Inc (SA)

- 49 Australian Psychological Society (VIC)
Tabled at Melbourne Public Hearing 24.7.03
- Printout of presentation slides containing a statement ‘Cost-effective Treatments in Heart Disease and other Physical Disorders’
- 50 Combined Pensioners & Superannuants Association of NSW Inc (NSW)
 51 Dr Jeannette Johanson, (VIC)
 52 Professor Jeff Richardson, (VIC)
Tabled at Melbourne Public Hearing 24.7.03
- Graphs: Fee Income to Average Weekly Earnings 1984/85
 Fee Income, Full Time GP’s and Specialists 1984 - 2002
- 52a Professor Jeff Richardson (VIC)
 53 North West Tasmanian Division of General Practice Ltd (TAS)
 54 Mr Gene Adam, (WA)
 55 Ms Mary Tinney, (QLD)
 56 General Practice Education and Training (ACT)
 56a General Practice Education and Training (ACT)
 57 Geelong and Region Trades and Labour Council (VIC)
 58 Queensland Nurses’ Union (QLD)
Tabled at Brisbane Public Hearing 26.8.03
- 2 articles
- ‘Taxes and Social Spending: The shifting demands of the Australian public’, Shaun Wilson and Trevor Breusch; and
 - ‘The emerging roles of the practice nurse’, Sueanne Robertson
- 59 Allergy, Sensitivity & Environmental Health Association Qld Inc (QLD)
 60 Blue Mountains Division of General Practice Inc (NSW)
 61 Bayside GP Division (QLD)
 62 Health Consumers’ Council (WA)
Tabled at Perth Public Hearing 29.7.03
- ‘Additional material’
- 63 Health Issues Centre (VIC)
 64 Victorian Medicare Action Group (VIC)
Tabled at Melbourne Public Hearing 24.7.03
- ‘Improving the lives of people with chronic illness’ findings, No3 April 2001.
- 65 Mrs Deborah Scholem, (NSW)
 66 Wagga Wagga City Council (NSW)
 67 Central Coast Trades & Labour Council (NSW)
 68 Country Women’s Association of NSW (NSW)
 69 Health Services Union of Australia (VIC)

- 70 UnitingCare NSW.ACT (NSW)
- 71 Carers Australia (ACT)
- 72 Australian Consumers' Association (NSW)
- 73 City of Whittlesea (VIC)

Tabled at Melbourne Public Hearing 27.8.03

- 'Human Service Gaps at the Interface between urban and rural', RMIT Centre for Applied Social Research, March 2003

- 74 Loddon Mallee Women's Health (VIC)
- 75 Ms Sharon Valles, (QLD)
- 76 Dr S Messina, (WA)
- 77 Social Action Office (QLD)
- 78 Moreland Council (VIC)
- 79 Professor Doris Young, (VIC)

Tabled at Melbourne Public Hearing 27.8.03

- Paper 'PIP General Practitioner teaching payment: Is it time for a change?

- 80 South Kingsville Health Services Co-op Ltd (VIC)
- 81 Professor Wilson, Professor Del Mar & Dr Watt (QLD)
- 82 Northern Territory Government (NT)
- 83 Australian Medical Association (ACT)
- 83a Australian Medical Association (ACT)
- 84 Council of Social Service of NSW (NSW)
- 85 Professor J S Deeble, (ACT)
- 86 The Royal Australian College Of General Practitioners (VIC)
- 86a The Royal Australian College Of General Practitioners (VIC)
- 87 National Rural Health Alliance Inc (ACT)
- 88 Dr Trish Baker, (QLD)
- 89 Dr Peter Keddie, (VIC)
- 90 Mrs Nancy Valbo, (VIC)
- 91 Mr Henryk Michal Kowalik, (WA)
- 92 Catholic Welfare Australia (ACT)
- 93 Professor Stephen Duckett, (VIC)
- 94 Australian Physiotherapy Association (VIC)
- 95 Victorian Council of Social Service (VIC)
- 96 Catholic Health Australia (ACT)
- 96a Catholic Health Australia (ACT)
- 97 Association of Independent Retirees (AIR) Ltd (VIC)

Tabled at Melbourne Public Hearing 27.8.03

- Health Insurance Survey by St Luke's Health, September 2002 and other information

- 98 Council on the Ageing National Seniors Partnership (VIC)
- 99 Australian Private Hospitals Association (ACT)

Tabled at Canberra Public Hearing 28.8.03

- Opening statement containing figures

100 Australian Greens (ACT)
101 Rural Doctors Association of Australia (ACT)

Tabled at Canberra Public Hearing 28.8.03

- Medical labour force 2000 (AIHW Bulletin – Issue 5 June 2003)

102 Consumers' Health Forum of Australia Inc (ACT)
103 Australian Diagnostic Imaging Association (ACT)
104 Dr Bertram Vanrenen, (VIC)
105 Australian Health Insurance Association Ltd (ACT)

Tabled at Canberra Public Hearing 28.8.03

- Health fund contributors and their 30 percent rebate,
- graph 'Number of individuals benefiting from the current MBS Safety Net and total benefits paid.'

105a Australian Health Insurance Association Ltd (ACT)
106 Australian Council of Social Service (NSW)
107 Cairns Division of General Practice Ltd (QLD)
108 Australian Association of Pathology Practices Inc (ACT)
108a Australian Association of Pathology Practices Inc (ACT)
109 Geelong Ethnic Communities Council (VIC)
110 Dr Ian Matthews, (QLD)
111 Mr Stan Mead, (TAS)
112 General Practice Computing Group (ACT)
113 Mental Health Council of Australia (ACT)
114 Dr Thomas Lyons, (QLD)
115 Dr Peter Winterton, (WA)
116 Dr Joe Cordaro, (NSW)
117 The Victorian Government (VIC)

Tabled at Melbourne Public Hearing 24.7.03

- Opening presentation by the Hon Bronwyn Pike, Minister for Health

117a The Victorian Government (VIC)
117b The Victorian Government (VIC)
118 The National Association of Maritime Union of Australia Veterans (NSW)
119 Mr Tomas Nilsson, (TAS)
120 Dr Katriona Herborn, (NSW)
121 Dr Peter Tait, (NT)
122 Dr Dick Merigan, (VIC)
123 Dr Elizabeth Dodd, (NSW)
124 Hobart Women's Health Centre (TAS)

Tabled at Hobart Public Hearing 31.7.03

- Opening statement

- 125 Ms Denise Goodfellow, (Lawungkurr Maralngurra) (NT)
- 126 Australasian Faculty of Musculoskeletal Medicine (VIC)
- 127 Professor Ian Harper, (VIC)
- 128 The Christian Fellowship known as Brethren (NSW)
- 129 Mr G Goutzimanis, (VIC)
- 130 North West Melbourne Division of General Practice (VIC)
- 131 Northern Territory Council of Social Service (NT)
- 132 Australian Council of Trade Unions (VIC)
- 133 National Association of People Living with HIV/AIDS (NSW)

Tabled at Melbourne Public Hearing 27.8.03

- Preamble to submission

- 133a National Association of people living with HIV/AIDS (NSW)
- 134 Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations Inc (NSW)
- 135 ASU Victorian Authorities & Services Branch (VIC)
- 136 Optometrists Association Australia (VIC)
- 137 Rockingham Kwinana Division of General Practice (WA)
- 138 Department of Health and Ageing (ACT)

Tabled at Canberra RoundTable Briefing 21.7.03

- The Relative Value Study: Stage 3 Modelling - A Technical Report May 2001 - by Health and Aged Care
- Printout of presentation slides
- Tables: Obstetrics MBS Rebate and average gap charged; Costs of General Practice; Contribution to total increase in private hospital separations by Major Diagnostic Category, Australia, 1997 – 98 to 2000-01.
- Graphs: GP Income – Australian Government and patients
- Comparison of Standard GP Rebate (Item 23) with GP bulk billing rates; Share of public hospital emergency department services by triage category
- AMWAC Report 2000.2 (August 2000) The General Practice Workforce in Australia – Supply and Requirements 1999 – 2010
- AIHW – Australian Hospital Statistics 2001-02 and previous issues: Public Hospital Accident and Emergency Occasions of Service by State and Year.

- 138a Department of Health and Ageing (ACT)
- 138b Department of Health and Ageing (ACT)
- 139 Tasmanian Organisation of Employment Seekers (TAS)
- 140 New South Wales Nurses' Association (NSW)
- 141 Unions ACT (ACT)
- 142 Anglicare Tasmania (TAS)
- 143 Australian Medical Association Queensland (QLD)

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- 144 Australian Women's Health Network (VIC)
 145 Bundaberg & District Women's Domestic Violence Service Inc (QLD)
 146 Queensland Divisions of General Practice (QLD)
 147 Tasmanian Government (TAS)
 148 Faculty of Medicine – University of Sydney (NSW)
 149 Mr Paul Bobb, (ACT)
 150 Ms Mary Burchell, (ACT)
 151 Mr Joe Pasqualina, (VIC)
 152 Union of Australian Women – Newcastle Branch (NSW)
 153 Dr Warwick Ruscoe, (NSW)
 154 NSW Government (NSW)
 155 Mr John Bartlett, (MP) (NSW)
 156 The Poverty Coalition – Tas (TAS)
 157 Aboriginal Medical Services Alliance NT (NT)
 157a Aboriginal Medical Services Alliance NT (AMSANT)(NT)
 158 Health Consumer's Network (QLD)

Tabled at Brisbane Briefing 26.8.03

- Communique and open letter from Australian Health Care Summit, dated 22 August 2003

- 159 Australian Nursing Federation (ACT)
 160 Australian Medical Students' Association (AMSA) (NSW)
 161 South Australian Government (SA)
 162 Hunter Urban Division of General Practice (NSW)
 163 Dr Ross Kerridge, (NSW)
 163a Dr Ross Kerridge, (NSW)
 164 St Vincent de Paul Society National Council (NSW)
 165 Dr John Flynn, (QLD)
 166 Mr Mark Lipscombe, (VIC)
 167 Ms Sherri Stephens-Green, (NSW)
 168 Miss Andrea McRae, (NSW)
 169 Maternity Coalition Inc (VIC)

Tabled at Melbourne Briefing 27.8.03

- Medicare savings from maternity services reform

- 170 Public Interest Advocacy Centre (NSW)
 171 ACT Government (ACT)
 172 Dr Ken Doust, (NSW)
 173 Dr Graham Mayze, (NSW)
 174 Mr Claude Phillips, (NSW)
 175 National Centre for Social and Economic Modelling (ACT)
 176 The Bessie Smyth Foundation (NSW)
 177 Western Australian Government (WA)
 177a Western Australian Government (WA)
 178 Western Sydney Division of General Practice (NSW)
 179 Carrington Residents Action Group (NSW)

- 180 Dr Michael Pietryk, (VIC)
- 180a Dr Michael Pietryk, (VIC)
- 180b Dr Michael Pietryk, (VIC)
- 180c Dr Michael Pietryk, (VIC)
- 180d Dr Michael Pietryk, (VIC)
- 181 Ms Alison Reid, (NSW)
- 182 Women's Action Alliance (Aust) Inc (SA)
- 183 Preston-Reservoir Progress Association (VIC)
- 184 Australian Dental Association (NSW)
- 185 Mr John Randles, (WA)
- 186 Mr Eric Manning, (NSW)
- 187 Mr Michael Halley, (VIC)
- 187a Mr Michael Halley, (VIC)
- 188 Union of Australian Women (South Australian Branch) (SA)
- 189 Australian College of Midwives Incorporated (ACT)
- 190 Dr Pat Cranley, (WA)
- 191 Ms Karen Struthers, MP (QLD)
- 192 Mackay Division of General Practice Ltd (QLD)
- 193 Ms Samantha Bobb, (ACT)
- 194 Mr Samuel Bobbin, (VIC)
- 195 Dr J H Grey, (VIC)
- 196 Dr John Davis, (TAS)
- 197 Australasian Integrative Medicine Association (VIC)
- 198 Mr Norm Nanos, (VIC)
- 199 Ararat Medical Centre Pty Ltd (VIC)
- 200 Australian Midwives Act Lobby Group (SA)
- 201 Ms Sharryn Jackson, MP (WA)
- 202 Mr Desmond Hughes, (NSW)
- 203 Hunter Area Health Service (NSW)
- 203a Hunter Area Health Service (NSW)
- 204 Dr Catherine Regan, (NSW)
- 205 University of Notre-Dame – School of Medicine (WA)
- 206 Humanist Society of Victoria Inc. (VIC)
- 207 Australian Medical Students' Association (AMSA) (SA)
- 208 Associate Professor Lesleyanne Hawthorne, (VIC)
- 209 Dr Gawie Roux, (QLD)
- 210 Mr John Sadnis, (SA)
- 211 Western Australian Medical Students' Society (WAMSS) (WA)
- 212 The Australian Research Centre for Population Oral Health (SA)
- 213 Oral Health Special Interest Group (SA)
- 214 Nowra/Bomaderry Branch, ALP (NSW)
- 215 Dr Umberto Boffa, (VIC)
- 216 Australian Liquor, Hospitality And Miscellaneous Workers' Union (WA)
- 217 Wide Bay Division of General Practice Assoc Inc. (QLD)
- 218 Dr D M Parker, (QLD)
- 219 Mr Ross Temple, (NSW)

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- 220 Jon and Gillian Kaub, (WA)
221 Nimbin Needs Doctors Rural Action Group (NSW)
222 Albion, Ned (VIC)
223 The National Advisory Committee on Oral Health (SA)
224 Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Ryde Division of General Practice Ltd (NSW)
225 Bothal, Ms Judy (VIC)

Additional information

Provided by Australian Consumers' Association (Sub 72) on 15 September, 2003

- The Australian Consumers' Association is an independent advocacy and information organisation. It promotes consumer rights through its publications, including Choice magazine, and through policy advocacy. Specialist policy officers are employed in the areas of health, financial services, communications and IT, and food. The ACA is not funded by industry or government, and is a not-for-profit company limited by guarantee.

Provided by Mrs Barbara Plant a representative of the Wide Bay Division of General Practice, after the public hearing in Bundaberg, Monday 25 August, 2003, referring the Hansard transcript of the Bundaberg Medicare hearing.

- 'There was one question that you asked on page 66 regarding the charge for After Hours consultations. I responded to Dr Rudd with "The rebate is \$20 or \$22" and I was actually referring to the "out of pocket" expense that generally exists for After Hours Consultations.
- Senator Knowles clarified this a little further on, but I am concerned that my statement does not provide accurate information.
- Also, on page 67, Senator Stephens asked about the situation with domestic violence patients having access to a GP after hours. In my reply, I stated that I believed it would be appropriate for this responsibility be taken on by the hospital. It is not clear that I am only referring to after hour's incidents. During the day we have a system at the surgery for handling these patients so that they are managed discretely and can be seen by a bulk billing GP as an urgent appointment.
- When I was referring to the need for the Base (Public) Hospital to take responsibility for victims of domestic violence, it was in the after hours situation when it is not suitable or safe for a GP to attend at patient. It concerned me that my reply could be interpreted as all hours.'

Commissioned Report

As noted in Chapter 1, the Committee commissioned the Australian Institute for Primary Care (AIPC) at LaTrobe University, headed by Professor Hal Swerissen, to conduct research into what, if any, inflationary effects on health care costs for consumers are likely to emerge from the Government's 'A Fairer Medicare' package as well as the Opposition proposal. The AIPC report is included as Attachment 1.

Campaign Mail and Petitions

Petitions

In the course of the inquiry, several petitions relating to Medicare were tabled in Parliament, and which were drawn to the attention of Committee Senators. The text of these is reproduced below.

The first, addressed to the Prime Minister, The Hon. John Howard MP, states:

To the Honourable Speaker and Members of the House of Representatives assembled in Parliament. The petition of certain citizens of Australia draws to the attention of the House: We the undersigned object to the Federal Government's proposed changes to Medicare that will:

- Deny bulk-billing for around 4.3 million people in NSW;
- Increase the cost of basic health care for middle Australia;
- Place further pressure on our public hospital system;

Medical treatment and the safeguarding of our children's health should be a right not an expense.

We therefore pray that the House reverses their decision and considers the Carr Government plan to save bulk-billing and protect Medicare.

The second states:

To the Australian Senate:

We the undersigned call upon the Senate to oppose the Government's Medicare package because it is likely to reduce access to bulk billed services and increase out-of-pocket expenses for many people.

We further call on the Senate to take steps to abolish the Private Health Insurance Rebate and direct the savings to public health services, including Medicare, as advocated by the Australian Greens.

All Australians should be guaranteed timely access to quality public healthcare on the basis of need and not ability to pay. This objective is best achieved through strengthening and extending Medicare, including covering more dental and mental health services.