

OK

Secretary: Elton Humphery  
The Senate  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600

*Dear Secretary,*

***A change to bulk billing arrangements to allow patient co-payment at the point of service co-incident with direct rebate reimbursement.*** This proposal to let practices charge a co-payment and pay rebate directly to practices electronically **MUST** be **supported**. 'Pay Doctor' Cheques must be sent to the doctor or even better, transfer the rebate electronically to the Doctor, saving patients a lot of hassle.

Many patients find the hassle of going to Medicare office to claim the rebate a huge headache. "Medicare must be crazy and weird to send the doctor's cheque to patients" is a common talk among patients.

I realize that some people feel that letting doctors to charge a co-payment while bulk billing will lead to increase in fee charged. But this will not happen due to market forces, with those GPs charging a high fee losing patients.

*Yours sincerely,*



*Joe Pasqualina*  
51 Hudson st, Fawkner Vic 3060