



23 Marcus Clarke Street
Canberra ACT 2601

GPO Box 3131
Canberra ACT 2601

tel: (02) 6243 1111

fax: (02) 6243 1199

adjudication@acc.gov.au

www.acc.gov.au

Our ref: 63184
Contact officer: Simon Bell
Contact phone: 02 6243 1232

23/03/2018

By email

Dear Sir or Madam

Hospitals Contribution Fund of Australia Limited (HCF) application for authorisation AA1000402—Pre-decision conference

The Australian Dental Association (ADA) has requested the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (the ACCC) to convene a conference in relation to the draft determination issued by the ACCC on 5 March 2018 proposing to grant authorisation AA1000402.

The draft determination follows an application by HCF for authorisation to allow it to open its own dental clinics in locations that may overlap with dentists who participate in HCF's *More For Teeth* program. Under the *More For Teeth* program, HCF specifies the maximum fees for a number of dental services to be charged by participating dentists.

In the draft determination, the ACCC concluded that the proposed conduct is likely to lower the cost, and increase the use, of preventative dental services and it is likely to result in a net public benefit. Accordingly, the ACCC proposed to grant authorisation for 10 years.

A copy of the application and draft determination are available on the [ACCC's public register](#).

A pre-decision conference provides an opportunity for applicants and interested parties to make oral submissions to the ACCC about its draft determination.

The time, day and location for the conference are:

Time: 2:30pm

Day: Tuesday 10 April 2018

Location: ACCC office

Level 20, 175 Pitt Street Sydney

ACCC Commissioner Sarah Court will chair the conference.

Under the *Competition and Consumer Act 2010* (the Act), the applicant and other interested parties may attend the conference. If you wish to attend, you must notify the ACCC of your intention in writing by **COB Wednesday 28 March 2018** and briefly indicate why you or your company or organisation has an interest in the matter. To do so please email:

adjudication@acc.gov.au.

You should provide details of a contact name, telephone number, mailing address and email address so that you can be notified of any late changes to conference arrangements.

If you represent a company or organisation you should also provide a list of attendees and their position titles, and indicate who will be the chief spokesperson.

Please note that, while conference participants may bring outside legal or other professional advisers to assist them, under the Act, these advisers are not entitled to participate in conference discussions.

Attached for your information are procedures usually followed at pre-decision conferences.

A copy of this letter has been placed on the ACCC's public register. If you require any further information regarding the conference or wish to clarify whether you may be considered an 'interested person' within the terms of the Act, please do not hesitate to contact Simon Bell on 02 6243 1232.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "D. Hatfield", is placed over a light yellow rectangular background.

David Hatfield
Director
Adjudication Branch