



**Australian  
Competition &  
Consumer  
Commission**

Our Ref: C2007/2171  
Contact Officer: Ilona Balint  
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17 December 2007

<Address>

Dear Sir/Madam

**Collective bargaining notification CB00006 lodged by the members of the Wangaratta Anaesthetic Group**

I refer to the above collective bargaining notification lodged with the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (the ACCC) on 21 November 2007. The notification has been placed on the ACCC's public register.

Under the notified arrangement the group of anaesthetists who are members of the Wangaratta Anaesthetic Group propose to collectively negotiate with BUPA Australia Health Proprietary Limited (trading as HBA) in relation to anaesthesia fees. Specifically, the group proposes to collectively negotiate a value above the scheduled fee for the provision of no-gap billing to HBA members.

On the information available, the ACCC does not object to the notification. A copy of a document setting out the ACCC's assessment of the notification is attached.

Protection afforded by notification CB00006 will commence on 19 December 2007 and will cease three years from the date of lodgement (21 November 2010). As with any notification, the ACCC may review the notification at a later stage should concerns arise.

A copy of this letter has been placed on the ACCC's public register. If you wish to discuss any aspect of this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Ilona Balint on (02) 6243 1113.

Yours sincerely

Isabelle Arnaud  
Director, Adjudication

No	Name
1.	Australian Medical Association
2.	Australian Medical Association (Vic)
3.	Australian Consumers' Association
4.	Consumers Health Forum
5.	Australian Private Hospitals Association
6.	Australian Healthcare and Hospitals Association
7.	Royal Australasian College of Surgeons
8.	Catholic Health Australia
9.	Private Health insurance Administration Council
10.	Department of Human Services
11.	Commonwealth Dept of Health and Ageing
12.	Wangaratta Private Hospital
13.	Northeast Health Wangaratta
14.	Australian Health Insurance Association
15.	The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists