



**Australian
Competition &
Consumer
Commission**

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Our Ref: CB00004
Contact Officer: Louise Hird
Contact Phone: 03 9290 1484

17 September 2007

Dear Sir/Madam

Collective bargaining notification CB00004 lodged by the Australian Medical Association (Vic) Pty Ltd on 17 September 2007 - interested party consultation

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (the ACCC) has received a collective bargaining notification lodged by the AMA (Vic) on behalf of a group of medical practitioners proposing to collectively negotiate their conditions of engagement (including price) with Latrobe Regional Hospital in Victoria.

The ACCC invites you to comment on the notification. Enclosed is a summary of the collective bargaining notification process.

A copy of the notification and supporting submission is enclosed. Other documents concerning the notification will be made available on the ACCC's website www.accc.gov.au.

Request for submission

The ACCC invites you to make a submission on the likely public benefits and effect on competition, or any other public detriment, from the proposed collective arrangements.

In making your submission, you may wish to focus on the types of benefits and detriments set out in the enclosure.

If you intend to provide a submission in relation to the collective bargaining notification, please do so by **27 September 2007**.

If you wish to lodge a submission, please address your submission to:

The General Manager
Adjudication Branch
Australian Competition and Consumer Commission
GPO Box 3131
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Submissions can also be lodged by email to adjudication@acc.gov.au or by facsimile on (02) 6243 1211.

Alternatively, if you would like to provide comments orally, please contact Louise Hird on (03) 9290 1484 to organise a suitable time.

Submissions, including oral submissions, will be placed on the ACCC's public register subject to any request for exclusion (guidelines are attached).

The ACCC will progress its assessment of the notification in a timely manner. An indicative timetable is set out below for your information.

Please also advise if you do not wish to receive future correspondence about this matter. You can also forward this letter to any other party who may wish to make a submission to the ACCC regarding the notification.

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 me on 02 6243 1049 or Louise Hird on 03 9290 1484.

Yours sincerely



a Isabelle Arnaud
Director, Adjudication

Indicative timetable

17 September 2007	Lodgement of notification and supporting submission completed.
17 September 2007	Public consultation process begins.
27 September 2007	Closing date for submissions from interested parties
4 October 2007	Notifying party respond to issues raised in the public consultation process.
On or before 12 October 2007	ACCC releases its assessment of the notification
15 October 2007	Absent ACCC objection, protection afforded by collective bargaining notification comes into effect.

Interested Parties
Rural Doctors Association of Australia
Rural Doctors Association of Victoria
Australian Rural and Remote Workforce
Rural Workforce Agency of Victoria
Australian General Practice Network
General Practice Divisions Victoria
Central West Gippsland Division of General Practice
National Rural Health Alliance
Australian healthcare Association
Australian Healthcare Reform Alliance
Australian Rural Health Education Network
Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing
Department of Human Services
Australian Health Ministers' Advisory Council (South Australian Department of Health)
Health Services Commissioner (Vic)
Medical Practitioners Board of Victoria
Australian Private Hospital Association
Victorian Hospitals' Industrial Association
Catholic Health Australia
Australian Consumer Association
Consumer Health Forum
Health Consumers of Rural and Remote Australia
Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine
Royal Australasian College of Physicians
Royal Australian College of General Practitioners
Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians & Gynaecologists
Royal Australasian College of Surgeons
Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists
Australian Medical Association (SA)