



**Australian  
Competition &  
Consumer  
Commission**

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Our Ref: C2008/1339  
Contact Officer: Monica Bourke  
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12 November 2008

Mr Warwick Hough  
Senior Manager  
General Practice, Legal Services and Workplace Policy Section  
Australian Medical Association Limited  
PO Box 6090  
Kingston ACT 2604

*By email: [whough@ama.com.au](mailto:whough@ama.com.au)*

Dear Mr Hough

**Australian Medical Association Limited and state/territory AMA organisations  
application for authorisation A91100 - draft determination**

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (the ACCC) has issued a draft determination in respect of the application for authorisation lodged by the Australian Medical Association Limited and the AMA state/territory bodies in Victoria, South Australia, Western Australia, Northern Territory, Queensland and Tasmania (all referred to as AMA) on 19 August 2008. Attached is a summary of the authorisation process including how to make a submission to the ACCC.

**Draft determination**

A copy of the ACCC's draft determination is attached, including a summary of its reasons. For the reasons set out in its draft determination, the ACCC proposes to grant authorisation for five years.

**Next steps**

Once the ACCC issues a draft determination, the applicant or any interested party may request that the ACCC convene a 'pre-decision conference'. A pre-decision conference provides the opportunity for interested parties to make oral submissions in relation to the draft determination. Conferences are conducted informally and while legal or professional advisers are able to attend they are not entitled to participate in the discussion.

If you wish the ACCC to hold a pre-decision conference in relation to the draft determination, you must notify the ACCC in writing by **27 November 2008**.

Alternatively, you are invited to make a written submission in response to the ACCC's draft determination. Submissions should be lodged by **4 December 2008**.

The ACCC will consider any submissions it receives, including any oral submissions made should a pre-decision conference be called, and will then release a final determination in relation to these applications.

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

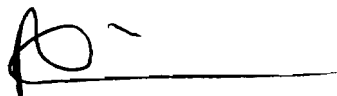
### **Timetable**

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

<b>19 August 2008</b>	Lodgement of application and supporting submission.
<b>22 August 2008</b>	Public consultation process begins.
<b>12 November 2008</b>	Draft determination.
<b>December 2008</b>	Public consultation on draft determination including any conference if called.
<b>December 2008/ January 2009</b>	Final determination.

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 Monica Bourke on (02) 6243 1351.

Yours sincerely



Dr Richard Chadwick  
General Manager  
Adjudication Branch