



**Australian
Competition &
Consumer
Commission**

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Our Ref: A91334
Contact Officer: Tanya Hobbs
Contact Number: 02 6243 1029

13 September 2012

Dear Sir/Madam

Australian Medical Association application for authorisation A91334 - interested party consultation

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (the ACCC) has received an application for authorisation from the Australian Medical Association (**AMA**). The ACCC invites you to comment on the application. Attached is a summary of the authorisation process including how to make a submission to the ACCC.

The AMA is seeking authorisation for its members who are general practitioners to engage in:

- a) intra-practice price setting;
- b) collective bargaining by single practices in relation to engagement as Visiting Medical Officers to public hospitals; and
- c) collective bargaining by single practices in relation to the provision of services to Medicare Locals.

A full copy of the application for authorisation is available on the ACCC's website www.accc.gov.au/AuthorisationsRegister. Alternatively, you can contact Tanya Hobbs on 02 643 1029 to obtain a hard copy of the application and submission.

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 arrangements. If you intend to provide a submission in relation to the AMA's application for authorisation, please do so by **12 October 2012**. Alternatively, if you would like to provide comments orally, please contact Tanya Hobbs on 02 6243 1029 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).

Please advise if you do not wish to make a submission at this time, but would like to be informed of the progress of the application at the draft and final determination stages. If you are able to, please provide a nominated contact email address for future correspondence.

You can also forward this letter to any other party who may wish to make a submission to the ACCC regarding the application.

Timetable

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

11 September 2012	Lodgement of application and supporting submission.
13 September 2012	Public consultation process begins.
12 October 2012	Closing date for submissions from interested parties.
22 October 2012	Applicant responds to issues raised in the public consultation process.
November/December 2012	Draft determination.
December/January 2012	Public consultation on draft determination including any conference if called.
February 2012	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 Tanya Hobbs on 02 6243 1029.

Yours sincerely



Dr Richard Chadwick
General Manager
Adjudication Branch

Interested Parties List

ACT Health
ACT Medicare Local
Adelaide Northern Division of General Practice
Australian Association of Practice Managers
Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine
Australian Consumers Association
Australian General Practice Network
Australian Health Ministers' Advisory Council
Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency/Medical Board
Australian Healthcare and Hospitals Association
Australian Healthcare Reform Alliance
Australian Human Rights Commission
Australian Indigenous Doctors' Association
Australian Practice Nurse Association
Australian Private Hospitals Association
Barwon Medicare Local
Bayside Medicare Local
Bentley-Armadale Medicare Local
Central Adelaide and Hills Medicare Local
Central and North West Queensland Medicare Local
Central Coast NSW Medicare Local
Central Queensland Medicare Local
Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing
Consumers Health Forum
Country North SA Medicare Local Ltd
Country South SA Medicare Local
Darling Downs – South West Queensland Medicare Local
Eastern Melbourne Medicare Local
Eastern Sydney Medicare Local
Far North Queensland Medicare Local
Far West NSW Medicare Local
Frankston-Mornington Peninsula Medicare Local
Fremantle Medicare Local
General Practice Network NT
General Practice Registrars Association
Gippsland Medicare Local
Gold Coast Medicare Local
Goldfields – Midwest Medicare Local
Goulburn Valley Medicare Local
Grampians Medicare Local
Great South Coast Medicare Local
Greater Metro South Brisbane Medicare Local
Health and Community Services Complaints Commission (NT)
Health and Disability Services Complaints Office

Health Care Complaints Commission (NSW)
Health Complaints Commission Tasmania
Health Consumers of Rural and Remote Australia
Health Quality and Complaints Commission (QLD)
Health Recruitment Plus Tasmania
Health Services Commissioner (Vic)
Health Services Commissioner, ACT Human Rights Commission
Health Workforce Queensland
Hume Medicare Local
Hunter Medicare Local
Illawarra – Shoalhaven Medicare Local
Inner East Melbourne Medicare Local
Inner North West Melbourne
Inner West Sydney Medicare Local
Kimberley-Pilbara Medicare Local
Loddon – Mallee – Murray Medicare Local
Lower Murray Medicare Local
Macedon Ranges and North West Melbourne Medicare Local
Metro North Brisbane Medicare Local
Murrumbidgee Medicare Local
National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation
National Rural Health Alliance
Nepean – Blue Mountains Medicare Local
New England Medicare Local
North Coast NSW Medicare Local
Northern Melbourne Medicare Local
Northern Sydney Medicare Local
Northern Territory Medicare Local
NSW Department of Health
NT Department of Health and Community Services
NWS Rural Doctors Network
Perth Central and East Metro Medicare Local
Perth North Metro Medicare Local
Perth South Coastal Medicare Local
Queensland Health
Royal Australian College of General Practitioners
Royal College of Nursing, Australia
Rural Doctors Association of Australia
Rural Doctors Workforce Agency Inc SA
Rural Health West
SA Department of Health .
South Eastern Melbourne Medicare Local
South Eastern Sydney Medicare Local
South West WA Medicare Local
South Western Melbourne Medicare Local

South Western Sydney Medicare Local
Southern Adelaide – Fleurieu – Kangaroo Island Medicare Local
Southern NSW Medicare Local
Sunshine Coast Medicare Local
Sydney North Shore and Beaches Medicare Local
TAS Department of Health and Human Services
Tasmania Medicare Local
Townsville – Mackay Medicare Local
Victorian Department of Human Services
WA Department of Health
West Moreton-Oxley Medicare Local
Western NSW Medicare Local
Western Sydney Medicare Local
Wide Bay Medicare Local