



**Australian  
Competition &  
Consumer  
Commission**

GPO Box 3131  
Canberra ACT 2601

23 Marcus Clarke Street  
Canberra ACT 2601

tel: (02) 6243 1111  
fax: (02) 6243 1199

[www.accc.gov.au](http://www.accc.gov.au)

Our Ref: 50025  
Contact Officer: Luke Griffin  
Contact Phone: (02) 6243 1114

5 November 2012

***Sent via email***

Dear Sir / Madam

**Australian Dental Association applications for authorisation (A91340 - A91341)  
- interested party consultation**

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (the ACCC) has received applications for authorisation from the Australian Dental Association Inc. (ADA).

The ACCC invites you to comment on the applications. For further information about the authorisation process, including how to lodge a submission to the ACCC, please refer to the attached summary.

The ADA is seeking authorisation on behalf of current and future members for the making of or giving effect to contracts, arrangements or understandings between two or more dentists and/or dental specialists who practise in a shared practice as to fees to be charged for dental services provided in the practice.

The ADA's applications for authorisation are substantially similar to authorisations A91094 and A91095 which were authorised by the ACCC in 2008. A full copy of the ADA's current and previous authorisation applications and supporting submissions are available on the ACCC's website <[www.accc.gov.au/AuthorisationsRegister](http://www.accc.gov.au/AuthorisationsRegister)>.

**Request for submissions**

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 AWG's application for authorisation, please do so by **Wednesday, 23 November 2012**.

Alternatively, if you would like to provide comments orally, please contact Luke Griffin on (02) 6243 1114 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).

## Timetable

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

<b>29 October 2012</b>	Lodgement of applications and supporting submission.
<b>5 November 2012</b>	Public consultation process begins.
<b>23 November 2012</b>	Closing date for submissions from interested parties.
<b>7 December 2012</b>	Applicant responds to issues raised in the public consultation process.
<b>February 2013</b>	Draft determination.
<b>February/March 2013</b>	Public consultation on draft determination including any conference if called.
<b>April 2013</b>	Final determination.

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 ADA's application at the draft and final determination stages. If you are able, 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 proposed arrangements.

This letter has been placed on the ACCC's public register. If you wish to discuss any aspect of this matter, please contact Luke Griffin on (02) 6243 1114 (or at [luke.griffin@accc.gov.au](mailto:luke.griffin@accc.gov.au)).

Yours sincerely



Dr Richard Chadwick  
General Manager  
Adjudication Branch

## **List of parties contacted**

Dental Health Program ACT Department of Health  
South Australian Dental Service  
Centre for Oral Health Strategy, NSW Department of Health  
Department of Community & Health Services (Tasmania)  
Dental Services - Territory Health Services  
Dental Health Services Victoria  
Oral Health Branch - Queensland Health  
Dental Health Services - Perth Dental Hospital - Community Dental Services  
Dental Board of New South Wales  
ACT Dental Board  
Dental Board of Queensland  
Dental Board of Western Australia  
Dental Board of South Australia  
Dental Practice Board of Victoria  
Dental Board of the Northern Territory  
Department of Health and Ageing  
Dental Health Unit - Department of Human Services  
Public Health and Clinical Coordination  
Australian Health Insurance Association  
Manager Policy and Campaigns Choice  
Consumers Health Forum  
Catholic Health Australia  
Private Health Insurance Administration Council  
National Rural Health Alliance  
Health Consumers of Rural and Remote Australia  
Rural Health Workforce Australia  
Office of the Health Services Commissioner  
Health Complaints Commission Tasmania  
Royal Australasian College of Dental Surgeons  
Australian Dental Industry Association  
Australian Council of Social Service  
Public Health Association Australia  
Consumer Action Law Centre  
Australian Community Workers Association  
Australian Council for the Ageing  
Public Interest Advocacy Centre Ltd  
Rural Dental Action Group  
Consumers' Federation of Australia