
From: Anthony Wan [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 8 June 2021 1:30 PM
To: Exemptions
Subject: AA1000542 – Honeysuckle Health – submission

To whom it may concern,

I oppose the the ACCC's draft decision to authorise Honeysuckle Health and NIB buying group. Initially it may seem that consumers benefit from the buying group. However in the long term this results in health funds having significant influence over how patients are treated. With the influence of insurers, patients and their doctors' ability to decide freely how and where their treatments occur In the long term would be compromised.

It is also not a coincidence that in the US, where Cigna corporation (the company forming a joint venture with NIB) is based, costs of healthcare are amongst the the highest in the world. This buying group moves the Australian healthcare system a step closer to the US model of Managed Care. If health funds dictate how and where patients are treated, patients' healthcare costs will increase because health funds may decide to withhold funding to doctors and treatment outside their referral network.

All in all, authorising Honeysuckle Health would compromise Australia's world class healthcare system and the patients would have to suffer the consequences in the long run.

Kind regards

Dr Anthony Wan