
From: Kate Drummond [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 2 June 2021 2:42 PM
To: Exemptions
Subject: NIB/Honeysuckle proposal

To the ACCC,

I write to express my opposition to the proposal to grant NIB/Honeysuckle authorisation to operate a buying collective with Australian healthcare providers (Authorisation number: AA1000542).

This fundamentally reduces the current level playing field that health care providers operate under in the private sector in Australia and ultimately restricts patients' options when choosing a health care provider.

As a medical practitioner caring for those in need in our community, I am extremely worried about this proposal. Corporatised health care, as seen modeled by the US, has resulted in significant disparity in care for the community, and has proven to be expensive, inequitable, and result in poor outcomes.

Increasing the power and influence of large for-profit corporations results in a very ethically questionable situation whereby healthcare standards are based on financial gain and corporate interests. This damages the doctor-patient relationship and takes choices away from patients.

The decision to grant the proposal will damage Australia's world class healthcare system and lead to overall patient harm.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Kate Drummond
MBBS(Hons.), MMed(Pain Management), FANZCA, FFPMANZCA Anaesthetist and Specialist Pain Medicine Physician