
From: Edwin and Susan [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, 5 June 2021 3:55 PM
To: Exemptions
Subject: AA1000542 – Honeysuckle Health – submission

Dear ACCC

I am an anaesthetist with more than 30 years experience working in Australian health care. I have also worked overseas as a doctor. As a health care professional who is in the position to compare a couple of different healthcare systems during my career, I believe the our pre-existing system, although flawed functions better than others especially the USA model of care.

The Australian system of public and private care provides patient choice and autonomy with universal coverage. It allows health care professional autonomy where care is hopefully based on good medicine rather than directed by insurance companies. It is both more efficient and, more importantly, more equitable. The powerful mercantile health insurers in the USA have been instrumental in the evolution of American healthcare into an expensive, grossly unfair with poorer health outcomes to the population compared with other OECD countries.

Once health funds become "for profit", their primary duty is to provide a profit for the shareholders. This can mean the fund is less concerned about providing quality or choice to the customers.

In the long term their profit motivations have resulted in poorer care with the highest healthcare dollar spend of any country.

I am strongly against allowing American health insurers into our country.

Regards

Dr Susan O'Regan
Specialist Anaesthetist