
From: Hamish Meares [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 4 June 2021 8:37 PM
To: Exemptions
Subject: AA1000542 – Honeysuckle Health – submission

Dear Sir/Madam

I note with alarm the ACCC's recent decision to authorise the Honeysuckle Health and nib health funds health services buying group.

This model, as has been aptly demonstrated in the US, is one designed to advantage the financial interests of the buying group at the expense of the patients – a very successful model given the large profits for the US insurers but exceptionally poor health outcomes for US patients, which is then made even worse by the outrageous cost.

If I am a patient, I want my medical care to be determined by my treating doctor, *not* by the contractual obligations that doctor has with a buying group or the particular data model the buying group is using to generate the greatest profit margin they can make for my treatment.

I therefore argue this authorisation would decrease choice available for patients, and particularly so in the Newcastle area where NIB is the dominant market player.

How does authorising the contracting large bodies of doctors into a singular large corporate entity increase competition?

Your sincerely

Hamish Meares