
From: Kate Herbert [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 9 June 2021 10:45 PM
To: Exemptions
Subject: AA1000542 – Honeysuckle Health – submission

To the ACCC

I don't have a particularly in depth grasp of the Honeysuckle submission, however I do understand that managed health is a move towards a system where Australians have less choice over which provider they chose to see, and an increase overall in cost. It does not lead to better health outcomes. Any move towards a system that excludes ppl from accessing the most appropriate provider for them, is a move away from patient centred care and away from an equitable health system.

My personal experience with "provider preferred" allied health with private cover has been less than optimal. In fact, the only provider preferred optical and dental in our area for a particular health fund have been problematic on a number of fronts for us. We had to seek dental at a different provider, who understood our particular needs, but at greater cost to us. Additionally, I have had to seek out of State medical care as it was not available within my State. The flexibility of Medicare subsidies means that I get at least some reimbursement for whichever provider I chose. This has been a very positive experience with the Medicare system for me. Patients should have control over their choice, not private companies who have contracts with groups or individuals. No one should be locked out from accessing a particular provider because their insurance or Medicare does not cover them.

Kind regards

A very scared person with a chronic health condition.