

Brief submission

Privatising Medicare will not achieve our aim of improving the health of the nation. Proponents of privatisation claim that free market economics will help bring costs down and address need. There is strong international evidence to refute this claim. Free market economics do not apply to healthcare as healthcare is not an ordinary good. Consumers are unable to evaluate the quality of what they are receiving especially so in the case of preventative care where the benefits are some time into the future. We do not need to be having this debate as the evidence is strong that universally-funded sustainably-managed care is far superior at delivering cost-effective outcomes than private healthcare.

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