

22 July 2016

Natasha Ryan  
Assistant Secretary  
Medical Specialist Services Branch  
Department of Health, Australian Government,

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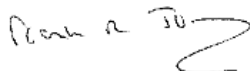
Dear Ms Ryan,

The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) thanks the Department of Health for the opportunity to comment on proposed regulation to prevent the use of Medicare services for unproven stem cell treatment. Specifically,

*'No MBS item applies to a service mentioned in the item if the service is provided to a patient at the same time, or in connection with, the harvesting, storage, in-vitro processing or injection of non-haematopoietic stem cells.'*

There is the potential for very ill and often vulnerable consumers to be misled and in some cases harmed through the provision of unproven stem cell therapies. As such, the RACGP supports the proposed regulation.

Yours sincerely,



Dr Frank R Jones  
President