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24/06/2021

www.accc.gov.au

By email

Dear Madam/Sir

Honeysuckle Health and nib application for authorisation AA1000542 — Pre-decision conference

The Australian Society of Ophthalmologists, the Council of Procedural Specialists, the Royal Australian & New Zealand College of Psychiatrists and the Council of Presidents of Medical Colleges have requested that the ACCC convene a conference in relation to the draft determination issued by the ACCC on 21 May 2021.

The draft determination proposes to grant authorisation, with a condition, for Honeysuckle Health and nib to form and operate a buying group to collectively negotiate and administer contracts with healthcare providers on behalf of private health insurers and other healthcare payers. A copy of the application and draft determination can be found on the ACCC's [website](#).

A pre-decision conference provides an opportunity for the applicants and interested parties to make oral submissions to the ACCC about its draft determination.

Due to the uncertainty of the ongoing impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, the ACCC will hold the conference virtually on **Thursday 8 July 2021**. Attendees will be provided with a link to attend by video. The conference will commence at **9.30am** (AEST). Commissioner Stephen Ridgeway will chair the conference.

Under the *Competition and Consumer Act 2010* (the Act), the applicants and other interested parties may attend the conference. If you wish to attend, you must email exemptions@acc.gov.au by **5:00pm on Friday 2 July 2021** and briefly indicate why you, your company or your organisation has an interest in the matter.

You should provide details of a contact name, telephone number, and e-mail address so that you can be notified of the conference arrangements when these become available.

If you represent a company or organisation, you should also provide a list of attendees and their position titles, and indicate who will be the chief spokesperson. Please note that, if there is a high level of interest in attending the conference, it may be necessary for the ACCC to prioritise speaking time to representative organisations, over those attending in an individual capacity.

Please also note that, while conference participants may bring outside legal or other professional advisers to assist them, the Act prohibits these advisers from participating in conference discussions.

Attached for your information are procedures usually followed at pre-decision conferences.

A copy of this letter has been placed on the ACCC's public register. If you require any further information in regard to the conference, please do not hesitate to contact Michael Pappa on (03) 9658 6531.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "DChanning". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping 'D' and a long, horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Darrell Channing
Director
Competition Exemptions