

# MinterEllison

24 August 2020

**BY EMAIL ONLY**

Ellie Dwyer  
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Merger and Authorisation Review Division  
Australian Competition & Consumer Commission  
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Dear Ms Dwyer

**Private Healthcare Australia (PHA) – application for authorisation AA1000487 – Fortnightly report to ACCC No 6**

1. We refer to our letter dated 11 August 2020 in which we provided the fifth fortnightly report pursuant to condition 2 of the conditional interim authorisation granted to PHA by the Commission.
2. The purpose of this letter is to provide the sixth fortnightly report which relates to the period from 10 August 2020 to 21 August 2020 and is set out in the **Annexure** to this letter and the **Attachment** to the Annexure.
3. The Annexure to this letter and the Attachment to the Annexure contain information that is confidential to PHA. This confidential information has been highlighted in the Annexure to this letter and in the Attachment to the Annexure in red highlighting. PHA requests that the ACCC treat the highlighted information as strictly confidential and that it be redacted from this document prior to publication on the ACCC's public register.

Please let us know if the ACCC has any questions.



Yours faithfully  
**MinterEllison**

Contact: Noelia Boscana



## Annexure 1 – Fortnightly Report to the ACCC No. 6

### 1. Report

1.1 This Fortnightly Report sets out the details of the following meeting that occurred during the period from 10 August 2020 to 21 August 2020:

(a) Value of Private Health Meeting.

1.2 The relevant details of this meeting set out below are the date of the meeting, attendees, agenda items that relate to the Proposed Conduct and a summary of the topics discussed that relate to the Proposed Conduct. The minutes of the meeting are set out as an Attachment to this report.

### 2. Value of Private Health Meeting

2.1 *Date:* 3:30pm, 11 August 2020

2.2 *Attendees:*

- |     |              |  |
|-----|--------------|--|
| (a) | Matthew Koce | Members Health Fund Alliance             |
| (b) | Michael Roff | Australian Private Hospitals Association |
| (c) | James Kemp   | Catholic Health Australia                |
| (d) | Steven Rubic | Healthscope                              |
| (e) | John Hill    | PHA                                      |
| (f) | Rachel David | PHA                                      |
| (g) | Lisa Minchin | PHA                                      |

2.3 *Agenda items:*

- (a) Situation in Victoria
- (b) Elective surgery update
- (c) Aged care patients

[REDACTED]

(e) Other business & next meeting

2.4 *Summary:*

- (a) The group discussed the gravity of the situation in Victoria and funds with a large presence in Victoria were urged to take further measures to support members.
- (b) The hospitals discussed that all elective surgery is taking place around Australia except Victoria, where only category 1 surgery is being done.
- (c) The group discussed the situation of aged care in Victoria, [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]
- (d) It was agreed that real and anticipated mental health demands would be discussed next meeting [REDACTED].

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

2.5 *Minutes*: the minutes of this meeting are in Attachment 1.

**3. Next Fortnightly Report**

PHA will submit the next fortnightly report pursuant to the conditional interim authorisation on Monday, 7 September 2020.



## Attachment 1 – Value of Private Health Meeting

**Private Healthcare Australia**  
Better Cover. Better Access. Better Care.

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**Dr Rachel David**  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

### Minutes of Value of Private Health Meeting

3:30pm Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> August 2020

#### Attendees:

- Matthew Koce                      Members Health Fund Alliance
- Michael Roff                        Australian Private Hospitals Association
- James Kemp                        Catholic Health Australia
- Steven Rubic                        Healthscope
- John Hill                             PHA
- Rachel David                        PHA
- Lisa Minchin                        PHA

#### Welcome and apologies

Apology: Danny Sims (Ramsay Healthcare).

#### Elective surgery update. Situation in Victoria – aged care patients

Discussion was had around the gravity of the situation in Victoria, and the enormity of the pressure on the institutions and staff. Comments were made around the remarkable work that the private health sector is doing to help during the pandemic.

Rachel David asked about further measures funds with a large presence in Victoria could undertake to support members.

PHA wants to keep track of what is happening, in particular, what elective surgery has been postponed or cancelled, and the impact on health workers and mental health provision.

Hospitals responded that:

- All elective surgery is taking place around Australia: except in Victoria where only category 1s are being done.
- In relation to aged care, it depends on their location as to what help can be offered. As there has been a need to separate COVID patients and non-COVID patients, [REDACTED]

- [REDACTED] Further examples of the private sector stepping up to help in the COVID crisis.
- There is no shortage of PPE.

[REDACTED]

Real and anticipated mental health demands particularly in Victoria were discussed. It was agreed that this would be added to the agenda at the next meeting.

[REDACTED]

**Other business & next meeting**

[REDACTED]

**Next meeting: 11:30am 8<sup>th</sup> September 2020**