

EPSC@nt.gov.au

RE: Call for Submissions – Medical Services Amendment Bill 2018

Please find below COTA NT's comments on the Medical Services Amendment Bill 2018

Firstly, thank you for giving COTA NT the opportunity to review and make comments on the above Bill.

PART 2:

5. Section 5 (Definitions).

(1) Health practitioner to be defined as per AHPRA or may be referred to Section 17 (5) for the definition>

(2) Medical Service Means:

a) A service (please insert) "Provided by a Health practitioner" for maintain etc.

National health (please insert) "reform" agreement

(a) Please commence the clause with, as defined in section 3 (1) etc.

Definition of a Salaried Officer may be changed to a "Salaried Health Practitioner who is carrying our duties as a public sector employee".

6. Powers of Minister

(1) The Minister may arrange for the provision of medical services, fees and charges in accordance with section 4A.

(2) May be deleted

(4)(b) What does mean to a pensioner

7. Powers and duties of CEO

(1) Is Danila Dilba covered by THS?

(2) The CEO may do any of the following:

(a) Appoint a person to be (please delete the words "the person") in charge

(b) The term "persons" may be replaced by "clients"

(c) Does this clause cover Chronic long stay patients and clients awaiting nursing home placement in the hospital being charged 87% of their pension?

9. Transport of patients inside and outside the Territory



(3) Wont the THS be responsible for the client or an authorized employee, a relative or a friend as an official escort who sustains an injury during transport e.g. the ambulance transporting the patient and the escort meets with an accident etc.

12. Charges and recoverable as debt except in certain cases

(1) Are Pensioners affected by this clause? If so, please give an example

14. Burial Expenses

(1) Who is responsible for the burial expenses?

16. The title "persons in charge of the hospital" needs to be changed to Person in charge of the hospital, Nursing home, an urban health centre or any other health centre.

- (1) "The person in charge of a hospital or nursing home" needs to be changed to read "the premises"
- (2) The person in charge of the premises may issue
- (3) As above

17. Use of facilities by private practitioners

We have proposed changes to the order of the clauses in this section

- (1) Item 5 replaces item (1). The CEO may approve a private health practitioner..... Were a Visiting health practitioner
- (2) Item 4 replaces item (2)
- (3) Item 3 remains as item (3)

Are the items 1 and 2 in the Act necessary as these covered in the above 1,2, and 3?

- (8) The wording "A visiting dentist or a visiting medical practitioner "may be changed to A visiting health Practitioner".....of which the (word dentist may be changed to) health practitioner has been Approved
- (9) A visiting dentist or a visiting medical practitioner may be changed to a visiting health practitioner.
- (10) As above. Please change the terminology to "Visiting health practitioner".

The following directly related to seniors.

At the end where it states END NOTES:

- (2) (a) List of legislations to include the act of Nursing Homes and some reference on how the nursing home charges are determined – this is crucial to seniors.
- (b) Some reference made to Advanced Personal Care Plan. Is this covered by the Guardianship Act – please confirm.

- (c) My e-health record. Although it is a commonwealth issue some reference to be made in the list of regulations as to which on covers this

A recent survey conducted by COTA NT and also COTA Australia showed that over 80% of respondents believed that euthanasia should be re-instated in the Northern Territory.

These comments have been made in by our Board Members who were involved in the medical profession as either a practicing medical doctor or a medical superintendent and have been made good faith and are copyright and not for publication.

Yours sincerely

Sue Shearer
CEO – COTA NT