

Template: Letter to Your Local Federal MP

Instructions for patients: You can find your local MP and their contact details by searching the parliamentary website: https://www.aph.gov.au/Senators_and_Members

Subject: Urgent Action Needed on Medicare Rebates for GP Visits

Dear [MP's Name],

I am writing to you today as a concerned resident of your electorate. I am deeply worried about the rising cost of seeing my local doctor.

My trusted local general practice, [Practice Name], has recently informed me that they can no longer afford to bulk bill their patients. This is not because they are greedy, but because the Medicare rebate they receive from the government is not enough to cover the cost of the high-quality care they provide.

For years, the Medicare rebate for GP services has been frozen or has not kept up with the real costs of running a medical practice. This has forced my doctor to charge a private fee to keep their practice open. This means I now face a significant out-of-pocket cost every time I need to see my GP.

General practice is the backbone of our healthcare system. It keeps us healthy, manages chronic diseases, and prevents costly hospital admissions. When people can't afford to see their GP, they get sicker, and the cost to the entire healthcare system increases.

I urge you to take this issue seriously and to fight for a fair increase in the Medicare rebate for GP services. The rebate must reflect the true cost of providing quality care so that practices can afford to bulk bill, and all Australians can access the healthcare they need, when they need it.

I look forward to your response and hearing what action you will take to address this critical issue.

Yours sincerely,

[Your Name] [Your Address] [Your Contact Information]