

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, August 19, 2024 9:29 AM
To: medboardconsultation
Subject: Pre Employment Medical Examinations and Medicare Relatability, Fixed AHPRA Fees

Dear Sirs/Mesdames,

I was surprised to read Dr Tonkin's comments published in the 'Australian Doctor' edition of 07/08/2024 regarding the cost of conducting proposed mandatory examinations of fitness to practice for practitioners at age 70. She states that such a medical service would be rebatable by Medicare, and implies that doctors would be likely to bulk bill the service.

As this is a pre-employment medical, surely it is not Medicare rebatable? It would be unfair to make an exception in the case of this examination, where other employment related medical examination are not rebatable.

The proposed mandatory check will prove a further barrier to older practitioners whose contributions to service provision are essential. There are few GPs visiting Residential Aged Care Facilities who don't have grey hair.

A further barrier to financial viability of continuing some, often reduced hours practice in older professional life is the fixed cost of annual AHPRA registration. I do not think it appropriate that my fees are the same at my reduced practice time at 20 hours per week, mostly in RACFs, incurs the same fee as a full time procedural specialist.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dr Michael Browne
FRACGP Dip Med Older Persons RCPI