



Australian Government

Department of Health and Ageing

Ms Melissa Delaware
mdelaware@bigpond.com

Dear Ms Delaware

I am writing to you today, in my position as Acting Assistant Secretary and Medical Adviser within the Medical Benefits Division, of the Department of Health and Ageing. The Department has noted your *Campaign to change Medicare Laws to cover Surrogacy* and the paper written by yourself on the *Our Surrogacy Story* webpage. I commend the efforts which you are making to raise the awareness of the recent state and territory legislative changes pertaining to surrogacy.

The Government is committed to providing medically necessary services to the public, and is actively considering the issues you have raised. If you would like more information on the progress of this work, please do not hesitate to contact my colleague, Ms Mary Warner, Director of the Medical Services Section, on (02) 6289 7315, who would be happy to speak with you

The Department and the Department of Human Services (DHS) work closely to ensure that correct Medicare rebates are paid, and it was brought to our attention that you have also written to DHS regarding intracytoplasmic sperm injection (ICSI) for male factor infertility. It appears that the services provided to your husband are covered under the requirements of MBS item 13251 and MBS rebates are not precluded by operation of the surrogacy restrictions which apply to MBS items 13200 – 13221.

My Department has communicated with DHS on this issue and they will now approve the rebate for your ICSI treatment. To help facilitate your personal claim, the DHS Assessing Section will assist you with this process. Please provide a completed Medicare Claim form and a copy of the account/receipt.

**Assessing Section
Department of Human Services
Homeworld, 150 - 181 Soward Way
Tuggeranong ACT 2901**

I trust that this information will be of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Megan Keane'.

Dr Megan Keane
Acting Assistant Secretary
Medical Specialist Services Branch
6 March 2013