

**From:**  
**To:** [Community Affairs Committee \(SEN\)](#)  
**Subject:** User pays health for Australians  
**Date:** Monday, 7 April 2014 4:06:05 PM

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To Whom it may concern;

Being asked to submit stories, I just wanted to express a point of view. Until now Australia has managed a World Class Health care System. I think this sounds really, really impressive. As an affluent country why shouldn't Australia operate a world class health care system?

Why should health not be made available on an equitable level?

Surely if all Australians have best possible access to health then costs associated with poorer health or health problems may be minimized or optimal?

I have been, in the past, a holder of a Health Care Card. This meant I need not hesitate to address health concerns. Now that I no longer have free health I feel less able to address medical issues and some aspects of my personal health are neglected.

I am a low income earner, yet earn too much to be the recipient of the Health Care Card. I'm on the border-line of being able to hold the HCC.

I have conditions requiring surgery or the attention of specialist practitioners. Yet I no longer understand how to address such issues and problems. So I'm just leaving everything.

Many people would need to postpone, drag out or neglect to seek treatment or attention for medical complaints should a cost be associated.

Australia should be proud, as an affluent, western society to continue to offer equitable health services. Surely optimal health for everyone saves money, lives, stress and trouble in the long, short and medium term?

Penni Moore: