

Senate Finance and Public
Administration Committees
PO Box 6100 Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600
Australia

Janine Indian

To whom it may concern.

11/04/2012

To whom it may concern,

I work in the dental industry as a dental therapist. I do not work with my husband however. The reason for my submission is that my husband is a Dental Prosthetist and is currently in the process of being audited by Medicare.

Since he began working with medicare's Chronic Disease Dental Scheme (CDDS) his work load has increased considerably. To put it another way, he works much longer hours to enable him to keep his head above water. In the past however, he has enjoyed a successful practice over a long period and enjoyed the confidence of local dentists, doctors and patients.

Until my husband was notified of his audit, I had very little knowledge of the Medicare CDDS. Since then, both of our lives have been turned upside down. My husband once a hard working happy professional, has become serious and brooding. I suspect that he is becoming quite depressed. His confidence and self worth have been shaken by what I consider to be no good reason. This has effected me directly and our three teenage daughters are also feeling the stress of our situation. There is a good chance that they will have to be taken out of their school. The long period of time that this has been hanging over our heads has become debilitating. We can't plan ahead or consider holidays, and we can no longer make financial decisions or commitments.

Knowing the facts, I am sure that that there is no Australian that would agree with the aggressive way medicare appears to have conducted themselves nor would they consider the outcome (recovery of over \$150,000) to be moral. It has been done without empathy and they appear to have gone out of their way to bring our family to its knees.

I hope that this Senate Committee take into consideration the emotional and financial hardship they are visiting upon Australian working families and the poor excuses they are using to justify their behavior.

Yours Sincerely,