

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Committee, Health \(REPS\)](#)  
**Subject:** submission: Inquiry into access to and affordability of medical specialists in Australia  
**Date:** Sunday, 5 April 2026 5:27:11 PM

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to the committee,

it's not so much a problem of lack of specialists as a lack of General Practitioners willing to do any work. See a GP and they just refer patients on to specialist. the burden on specialists could be greatly reduced if GPs were willing to manage patients properly. There is no appetite for lighting a fire under GPs to encourage them. another problem is that increasing the number of orthopedic specialists in the public health system would collapse the private health system. most people only sign up for a speedier hip replacement. So false scarcity is important for premiumization, keeping the books full and optimizing pricing and revenue for health professionals. of course it wouldnt be such a issue if GPs were willing to manage acute ongoing long term pain(not to be confused with chronic pain, a technical term indicating that the pain is illusory) while patients wait for an appropriate, potentially permanent or affordable solution.

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