

05/04/2012

From Dr John Kovarik

Regarding Dental Medicare Private Members Bill.

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am writing as a dentist who treats patients under the Medicare CDDS scheme and I also have friends who are dentists that treat patients under the scheme. I have not been audited but one of my friends has, and has been found to be not fully compliant with the administrative requirements of the scheme. I am not fully aware of his whole circumstances.

I would like to make the following points.

- 1) If a dentist has acted fraudulently he/she should be punished.
- 2) If a dentist has not completed the paperwork correctly it seems unfair to ask him/her to repay all monies paid. Surely a please explain might be in order for a first offence or perhaps a fine, but full refund for inadvertently missing paperwork seems harsh. Often the paperwork error has apparently not been detected for several months or years so the amount of dental work done may have been quite a lot. In these instances who has been harmed?

Please be fair. That is all I ask.

Dr John Kovarik.