

Dear Colleagues

We have been informed by the 'Benefits Integrity Division' of the Department of Health and Aged Care that a Medicare compliance audit is being undertaken, which may affect some members. This particularly involves any claims for Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS) services whilst overseas. This would include not only consultations, but also case conferences.

Please be aware that this type of claiming is in breach of Section 10 of the Health Insurance Act 1973, which states that Medicare benefits are only payable for professional medical services provided in Australia, to an eligible person. The Department of Health and Aged Care will be sending letters to those that this applies to.

We anticipate that this will affect very few of our members, however if applies to you, we advise that you contact your medical indemnity insurer for legal advice as soon as possible, as there may be both financial and professional implications.

As this relates to legal matters and breaching the law, the RMSANZ advises you to take this matter extremely seriously.

We have included a link to the letter received by Prof Steven Faux for your reference.

Yours Sincerely,

Stephanie lam Chair Private Practice Special Interest Group

Steven Faux AM President of RMSANZ

ABN: 83 604 341 559 The Rehabilitation Society of Australia and New Zealand Ltd.