

## Media Statement



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### **PRIMARY HEALTH CARE RESPONSE TO 2017 FEDERAL BUDGET**

Primary Health Care (Primary) welcomes the Federal Government's budget, which recognises and supports the important role primary care plays in Australia's healthcare system.

Mr Peter Gregg, Managing Director and CEO at Primary, said:

"We are pleased to see the Federal Government's restoration of the Medicare Benefits Schedule indexation, the indexation for selected imaging modalities from 2020, and the continuation of the bulk billing incentive payments for pathology and imaging services. The expansion of the Child Dental Scheme cap is also a welcome outcome.

"Frontline care, and timely diagnosis and treatment, is the most effective means of delivering healthcare. We must support general practitioners as gatekeepers of our healthcare system and ensure they are appropriately rewarded.

"Bulk billing is a fundamental tenet of the Primary Group and we remain committed to working with the Government to support the delivery of affordable, accessible and quality healthcare in Australia."

**ENDS**