

19 October 2006

Cost of Treatment Consultation
Strategic Policy and Research Group
Accident Compensation Corporation
P O Box 242
WELLINGTON

PricewaterhouseCoopers Building
Level 13, 113-119 The Terrace
PO Box 345, Wellington 6001
New Zealand
Telephone: (0064) (4) 473 6465
Facsimile: (0064) (4) 473 1731
Email: info@mia.co.nz
Website: www.mia.co.nz

Dear Sir/Madam

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO COST OF TREATMENT REGULATIONS


This letter is in response to consultation on changes to the Injury Prevention, Rehabilitation and Compensation (Liability to Pay of Contribute to Cost of Treatment) Regulations 2003 ('the Regulations') proposed by the Accident Compensation Corporation ('ACC').

The MIA has had an opportunity to review and comment on the submissions of Business New Zealand on the Regulations. We fully support the views expressed by Business New Zealand in its submissions, and in particular we:

1. Support the need to ensure that any increases in ACC's contributions to treatment costs respond to genuine increases in the cost of providing treatment, to avoid the development of a cost-plus mentality;
2. Concur with Business New Zealand's support of ACC initiatives to contract preferred treatment providers as a means of promoting timely and cost-effective treatment; and
3. Agree with Business New Zealand's comments with regard to the interpretation of ILO Convention 17.

Please contact the undersigned (dave.harrison@mia.co.nz or DDI: 04 495 8371) if you wish to discuss the above further.

Yours sincerely



Dave Harrison
Policy Adviser / Office Solicitor