

Medicare

That the Synod

- (a) Call on the Australian Government to improve Medicare as a universal health insurance system to which all Australians contribute through the tax system on the basis of their ability to pay, and to abandon policies that leave people on low and moderate incomes disadvantaged if they do not have private health insurance. Access to doctors should be on the basis of need, not ability to pay at the point of service. If Australians need to pay more for their health care, then this should be shared across the whole community, with an increased Medicare Levy to fund the universal system. The increased cost should not be borne by individuals either through direct payments or through private health insurance.
- (b) Call on the Australian Government to provide essential dental health treatment as part of Medicare.