



Australian Government

Professional Services Review

Policy on the Publication of Case Outcomes

Section 79A of the *Health Insurance Act 1973* provides that the object of Part VAA of the Act is to protect the integrity of the MBS and PBS programs and in so doing, protect patients and the community in general from the risks associated with inappropriate practice. Section 106ZR precludes the disclosure of PSR Committee deliberations or findings unless the disclosure is required or permitted under the Act. After a final determination has come into effect, section 106ZPR permits the Director to publish, in such a way as he or she thinks most appropriate, particulars of:

- the name and address of the person under review (PUR); and
- the profession or specialty of the PUR; and
- the nature of the conduct of the PUR in respect of which the Committee found that the person had engaged in inappropriate practice; and
- the directions contained in the determination.

PSR will generally publish details of the outcome of cases on its website on a monthly basis in accordance with the following policy:

Ratified section 92 agreements

Publication should include:

- No information likely to identify the PUR.
- Gender neutral wording.
- The profession or specialty of the PUR (unless it would tend to identify the PUR).
- The relevant MBS or PBS item numbers (unless it would tend to identify the PUR).
- General information regarding the conceded inappropriate practice.
- The agreed actions.

Final determinations

Publication should include:

- The profession or specialty of the PUR.
- The relevant MBS or PBS item numbers.
- Detailed information regarding the conduct of the person under review in respect of which the Committee found that the PUR had engaged in inappropriate practice.
- The directions contained in the determination of the Determining Authority.
- The name of the PUR together with the practice address(es) only if —
 - the PUR's conduct was egregious and identification of the PUR is appropriate to deter similar behaviour by other practitioners; or
 - it is otherwise in the public interest to have the PUR publicly identified; and
 - publication would not adversely affect other proceedings or investigations.

The Director may consult with the Chair of the relevant PSR Committee before publishing the name and address of a PUR.

If the name of the PUR is published, the address must also be published to minimise the risk of a reader misidentifying another practitioner with the same or similar name.