



**The Hon Greg Hunt MP  
Minister for Health**

Ref No: MC18-027689

Dr Peter Seal  
President  
Australian Society of Anaesthetists  
PO Box 6278

21 DEC 2018

Dear Dr Seal

As you are aware, I have received recommendations from the Medical Benefits Review (MBS) Taskforce with respect to changes to MBS items for anaesthetics. At the time the recommendations were released for consultation, your organisation informed me of their concerns with the extent and clinical appropriateness of some of these recommended changes.

As a result, I asked my Department to work with your organisation and other key stakeholders to address these concerns. I am pleased to be able to inform you that my Government has accepted and progressed through the Mid-year Economic Fiscal Outlook (MYEFO) process all of the changes that were agreed with your predecessor, Associate Professor David M Scott, during those discussions.

I am also pleased to advise you that I have asked my Department to establish an anaesthetic liaison group to assist with implementation of the changes and to identify other issues with the MBS anaesthetic items that may need to be addressed. You will receive a formal invitation to be a part of the group early in the New Year.

If you have any queries about the proposed changes or establishment of the anaesthetics liaison group please contact my Department to discuss in the New Year.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Greg Hunt'.

Greg Hunt