



YOUR JOURNEY. OUR SUPPORT

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Please log on to protect Australian women's opportunity for a child

Access Australia needs your continued support in sending a strong message to the government that those of us with fertility problems, together with our family members and friends, are dismayed by the suggestion that the Medicare safety net may be means tested or altered in some way. This will place IVF out of reach for many people, making it available only for the rich.

Many of you may want to join or may already belong to online communities where you can connect with thousands of women around Australia via online forums and news postings about fertility, pregnancy and birth. If you log onto these websites and visit the forums you can let other women know about our concerns so they can help stop plans to make IVF more expensive. Such websites include BellyBelly, Bub Hub and Essential Baby but we have included a detailed list at the end of this letter.*

On your forum post, you can let other women know about our concerns and encourage them to contact their members for parliament and other key MPs. You can also encourage them to contact their relevant newspapers to express their concerns.

In your postings, there are three very important points to remember:

- **More than 40,000 Australians accessed IVF services with the support of the Medicare Safety Net in 2008 and nearly 11,000 babies were born last year as a result.**
- **IVF is often the last chance for many to have a child of their own and the Medicare Safety Net has ensured that every Australian has that opportunity – not just the wealthy.**
- **The Federal Government needs to keep the Medicare Safety Net safe for all Australians. Please don't destroy our opportunity to have a family.**

You can also let people know where they can find contact details for their local member and also provide contact details for newspapers:

- **You can find your local member** of the Commonwealth Parliament and their contact details **by visiting <http://apps.aec.gov.au/esearch/> to search for the name of your electorate by suburb or postcode.** Once you know the name of your electorate, **your member's contact details** can be found by visiting **<http://aph.gov.au/house/members/mi-elctr.asp>** and searching the list by electorate name. Click on the electorate name to reveal the contact details.
- **You can send letters of concern to your relevant media: (*see over page for contact details)**

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Your postings and forum entries are crucial in keeping IVF affordable.

We are achieving great things working together, so let's keep doing everything we can!

Warm regards



Sandra K Dill AM, BComm, MLS
Chief Executive Officer

***Relevant fertility pregnancy and birth websites:**

Website	URL	Forum link	Phone
BellyBelly	http://www.bellybelly.com.au/	http://www.bellybelly.com.au/forums/	(03) 9836 7734
BubHub	http://www.bubhub.com.au/	http://www.bubhub.com.au/community/forums/	(07) 3862 4491
EssentialBaby	http://www.essentialbaby.com.au/	http://members.essentialbaby.com.au/	(02) 8596 4488
BabyCentre Australia	http://www.babycenter.com.au/	http://www.babycenter.com.au/community/	n/a
Mumzone	http://www.mumzone.com.au/	http://mumzone.com.au/forum/	n/a
Mother and Baby	http://www.motherandbaby.com.au/	http://forum.motherandbaby.com.au/	(02) 8114 9465
Pregnancy, Birth and Beyond	http://www.pregnancy.com.au/	(Contact re 'Topics of Interest')	(02) 9873 1750
MotherInc	http://www.motherinc.com.au	(Contact re 'news + events' only)	(02) 9948 3655
Nine Months	http://www.ninemonths.com.au/	http://www.ninemonths.com.au/forum.html	n/a
Birth	http://www.birth.com.au/	http://forum.birth.com.au/	(03) 9697 0800
Motherhood	http://www.motherhood.com.au/	(Contact re 'Community news')	(02) 97998503
Huggies Club	http://www.huggies.com.au/	http://www.huggies.com.au/Forum/	1800 028 334
My Child	http://www.mychildmagazine.com.au	http://www.mychildmagazine.com.au/MYSPACE/forum/tabid/136/Default.aspx	(02) 9571 8596
During Pregnancy	http://www.duringpregnancy.com.au/	(Contact re 'news + events' only)	n/a