

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY
MEDICAL SERVICES (FEES) ORDINANCE 1984

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

No. 7 of 1984

The purpose of the Medical Services (Fees) Ordinance 1984 is to prevent a registered medical practitioner from recovering fees in excess of the "schedule fee" for the provision of prescribed services to private patients in public hospitals.

Section 1 of the Ordinance cites the short title.

Section 2 contains interpretation provisions. The provisions define:

- i. hospital as including the three public hospitals in the Australian Capital Territory;
- ii. medical practitioner as a person registered under the Medical Practitioners Ordinance;
- iii. prescribed fee as the schedule fee as set out in the table in the regulations to the Health Insurance Act 1973;
- iv. prescribed medical service as a service included in schedule 5 of the Health Insurance Act being the service prescribed for the purposes of section 17 of the Act; and
- v. private patient as a patient who has elected receive treatment exclusively from persons who are not employed by the Capital Territory Health Commission.

Section 3(1) of the Ordinance provides that a medical practitioner is not entitled to receive an amount in excess of the schedule fee for the provision of a prescribed medical service. Sub-section (2) creates any amount paid in excess of the schedule fee as a debt due from the medical practitioner to the patient.

Ord 12/84