

A A P D



Australasian Academy of Paediatric Dentistry

President: Dr Philippa Sawyer
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28th June 2018

Anne Elsworthy
Acting Director, AR-DRG Development
Independent Hospital Pricing Authority
PO Box 483
Darlinghurst NSW 1300
By email: submissions.ihpa@ihpa.gov.au

Dear Ms Elsworthy

RE: ADA Inc Submission regarding Consultation on Refined Diagnosis Related Groups Classification Version 10.0

On behalf of the members of AAPD I am writing in support of the submission made by ADA Inc in its entirety regarding this matter. I am aware that the closing date for submissions has well passed and apologise for the lateness of this letter. We are a small organisation with no administrative support and I have just returned from extended leave.

AAPD represents the vast majority of registered specialist Paediatric Dentists across Australia and New Zealand. Members are either working in Public Hospitals or private practice or a combination of the two. A significant number of our patients require treatment to be completed under general anaesthesia in both public and private hospitals due to the age of the patient, an inability of the patient to receive treatment in the usual clinical setting, the complexity of the medical or developmental condition of the patient and/or the complexity of the treatment itself.

An area of concern which was not covered in the ADA Inc submission is the need for joint or combined cases when a child or adult may need two or more procedures completed in the same general anaesthetic session by multiple surgeons in different disciplines. It is advantageous for individuals with disabilities to be offered this service as they are subjected to less occasions of general anaesthesia. These cases may be longer than the usual time allocated for the primary procedure which is the one ultimately coded. Private Health Insurance generally will pay an inadequate sliding scale for multiple procedure cases but in the case of BUPA they will only pay for one procedure regardless of the circumstances.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.
Sincerely

All correspondence to: secretary@aapd.org.au