

Media Release

For Immediate Release:
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ahm confirms new prices

Australian Health Management (ahm) today announced that premiums will rise by an average 6.94% which is around \$1.80 per week for a single membership on average including the rebate.

According to ahm Executive Group Manager, Dean Tillotson, the company's premium increase was a direct reflection of the cost pressures being placed on health funds.

"The increasing utilisation of health services, advancing medical technology and our ageing population mean prices will continue to rise. This isn't something ahm can control. Last year ahm paid out almost 22% more in hospital and medical benefits - a total of \$233million on behalf of our members across Australia.

"We know price increases aren't welcome news but our increase is the minimum necessary to guarantee our ongoing financial stability. We continue to do what we can to keep health insurance affordable and minimise the impact on members." said Mr Tillotson.

Mr Tillotson commented that ahm understands the pressures on household finances but stressed the value of greater choice and access to health services that private health insurance can provide.

"We believe that we remain very competitive and our members can have absolute confidence in our ongoing commitment to providing great value for money, exceptional customer service as well as access to a comprehensive range of services and preventative health programs to help them better manage their health for the long-term."

ahm members will be notified in writing of the changes to their health insurance premiums which are effective from Thursday, 1 April.

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Mr Tillotson is available for further comment.

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