Sage Journals

The Economic and Labour Relations Review

By clicking “Accept Non-Essential Cookies”, you agree to the storing of cookies on your device to enhance site navigation, analyze site usage, and assist in our marketing efforts. Privacy Policy Cookie Policy

Manage Cookies

Accept Non-Essential Cookies

Reject Non-Essential Cookies

Contents

More

Abstract

Over a three year peric ed a series of policies designed to increase the proportion of the population with private health insurance. The combined effect of the policies was an increase in the population coverage from a low point of 30.1 percent to 45.7 percent. The motivation for these policies was to force more Australians to use the private sector for their hospital care and in so doing reduce the pressure on the public sector. We piece together fragmentary early data from various sources and various time periods. We find that the increase in activity in the private hospital sector and the reduction in public hospital waiting times has indeed occurred.

Get full access to this article

View all access and purchase options for this article.

Get Access

References

Anonymous (2000) ‘Sparks Fly as Private Hospitals covet a Slice of the Action’, *healthcover*, 10 (2), 25–31.

Google Scholar

Australian Health Insurance Association Ltd (2001) *‘Withdrawal of 30% Rebate would be Devastating, 20 March 2001’*, http://www.ahia.org.au.

Google Scholar

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (2001) *Australian Hospital Statistics 1999–00*, Health Services Series, number 17, AIHW cat. no. HSE 14, Canberra, http://www/aihw.gov.au/publications/hse/ahs99-00/index.html

Google Scholar

Butler J. (1999) *'Estimating Elasticities of Demand for Private Health Insurance in Australia'*, National Centre for Epidemiology and Population Health, Working Paper no. 43, ANU, Canberra.

Google Scholar

Department of Human Services, South Australia (2001) *Elective Surgery Bulletin, 4th Quarter 2001*, http://www.dhs.sa.gov.au/esb/

Google Scholar

Department of Human Services Victoria (2001) *Hospital Services Report March Quarter 2001*, www.dhs.vic.gov.au/ahs/pub.htm

Google Scholar

Hall J., De Abreu R., Viney R. (1999) 'Carrots and Sticks — The Fall and Fall of Private Health Insurance in Australia', *Health Economics*, 8 (8), 653–660.

Crossref

PubMed

Web of Science

Google Scholar

Harmon C., Nolan B. (2001) 'Health Insurance and Health Services Utilization in Ireland', *Health Economics*, 10 (2), 135–146.

Crossref

PubMed

Web of Science

Google Scholar

Healthscope Limited (2001) *Annual Report 2000/2001*, http://www.healthscope.com.au

Google Scholar

Healthwest (2001) *Elective Surgery News for August 2001-Tertiary Hospitals Wait List number 32*, August, http://www.health.wa.gov.au

Google Scholar

Hopkins S., Cumming J. (2001) 'The Impact of Changes in Private Health Expenditure on New Zealand Households', *Health Policy*, 58, 215–229.

Crossref

PubMed

Web of Science

Google Scholar

Kerin J. (2001) 'Patient Backlog Easing', *The Australian*, August 29, http://www.theaustralia.news.com.au/printpage/0,5942,2706357,00.html

Google Scholar

Mallabone M. (2001) 'HBF Issues Gap Alert', *The West Australian*, August 25, 6.

Google Scholar

Mayne Nickless Limited (2001) *Progress on Strategy Delivers Turnaround for Mayne 29 August*, http://www.maynick.com.au/releasedetail.cfm?sectionID=1&menuID=2&menuSubID

Google Scholar

NSW Health (2001) *Current Waiting Times and Lists by Speciality for NSW Hospitals 18th September*, www.health.nsw.gov.au/waitingtimes/data/currwtimes.pdf

Google Scholar

Private Health Insurance Administration Council (2001a) *Membership and Coverage*, http://www.phiac.gov.au/phiac/fr_index.htm

Google Scholar

Private Health Insurance Administration Council (2001b) *PHIAC A Report, Administration Council (2001 b) PHIAC A Report*, www.phiac.gov.au/phiac/fr_index.htm

Google Scholar

Private Health Insurance Administration Council (2001c) *Medical Gap for Insured In-hospital Services — June 2001 quarter*, www.phiac.gov.au/phiac/stats/GapSataInfo/GapJuno1/GapJun01.htm

Google Scholar

Private Health Insurance Administration Council (2001d) *Operations of the Registered Health Benefits Organisation Annual Report 1999–2000*, www.phiac.gov.au/phiac/fr_index.htm

Google Scholar

Ramsay Health Care (2001) *Ramsay reports Record Annual Net profit*, http://www.ramsayhealth.com.au/rhc/s_invest.htm

Google Scholar

Vaithianathan R. (2001) *'An Economic Analysis of the Private Health Insurance Incentive Act (1998)'*, Centre for Economic Policy Research, Australian National University Discussion Paper no. 27, February.

Google Scholar

You currently have no access to this content. Visit the access options page to authenticate.

Download PDF

Also from Sage

CQ Library

Elevating debate

Sage Data

Uncovering insight

Sage Business Cases

Shaping futures

Sage Campus

Unleashing potential

Sage Knowledge

Multimedia learning resources

Sage Research Methods

Supercharging research

Sage Video

Streaming knowledge

Technology from Sage

Library digital services