insurance
DISRUPTION IN HEALTH INSURANCE:
EMBRACING TRANSFORMATIVE POLITICAL, REGULATORY AND TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGES
March 2019
Medibank (aka Medicare v1.0) began in Whitlam.
Commonwealth medical benefits at 30%, restricted to those with at least basic medical cover.
Hospital Treatment Coverage (insured persons)

Introduction of Medicare v2.0

Whitlam

Fraser

Hawke & Keating
Introduction of the 1% Medicare Levy Surcharge
Hospital Treatment Coverage (insured persons)

Introduction of 30% Rebate

Whitlam
Fraser
Hawke & Keating
Howard
Introduction of Life Time Health Cover
Higher rebates for older persons

Increase in Medicare Levy Surcharge income thresholds & annual adjustment.

Whitlam

Fraser

Hawke & Keating

Howard
Introduction of Rebate means testing & indexation
Hospital Treatment Coverage (insured persons)

Current Reforms

Whitlam
Fraser
Hawke & Keating
Howard
Rudd & Gillard
Abbott, Turnbull & Morrison
From 1 April 2019:

**Mandatory Reforms**
- Gold, Silver, Bronze & Basic Tiers
- Standard Clinical Categories
- Mental Health Upgrade
- Removal of benefits for some Natural Therapies

**Optional Reforms**
- Under 30’s Discount
- Increased maximum excess
- Rural & Regional travel benefits
If elected in 2019:

**Productivity Commission Inquiry**
- 22 years since the last PC inquiry
- Discussion paper asks the right questions
- Scope is too narrow
- Must include the full cost chain, not just the payer (insurer)

**2% Premium Cap**
- Finer detail on this is yet to be revealed
- Could have unintended consequences
Technological Disruptors:

- Expanded role of AI in diagnosis and treatment
- Personalised & precision treatment
- Med Tech start-ups
- Big data, inc. MHR
- Linking funding to health outcomes, not treatments
How should we embrace disruption?

We Can Do It!

VS

GO TO THE WINCHESTER, HAVE A PINT

AND WAIT FOR THIS ALL TO BLOW OVER