

# AMA (WA) VMP Contract - Your Views (1)

## 1. VMP Contract - Your Views

### VMP's - YOUR CONTRACT, YOUR INPUT

Information has already been circulated via email providing comprehensive details regarding the history of negotiating and lobbying VMP arrangements in WA.

VMP contracts typically expire in September this year and therefore the Association is undertaking a review, with a view to seeking to negotiate in relation to rural GP's. The ACCC recently issued an authorisation to the AMA/AMA(WA) which enables the Association to negotiate new VMP contracts on behalf of rural GP's in WA. AMA(WA) will also be lobbying in relation to appropriate changes to colleagues' contracts.

The Association will be drawing on various resources, undertaking research and assessing responses from members to assist in formulating proposals and either seeking to negotiate, or lobby Government as appropriate.

To assist in this process, and ensure we fully represent your views, your input is requested.

This survey seeks to ascertain members' views in relation to their current VMP Contract, Terms and Remuneration (Section 21) and the context in which it operates (Section 31).

Throughout the survey relevant documents will be referred to and these can be located on the AMA (WA) website. The information will be available to members only. If you have forgotten your log in and password details please contact Ms Dione Grose, Membership Officer at [dione.grose@amawa.com.au](mailto:dione.grose@amawa.com.au) or via 9273 3000.

Please complete each section and add any further comments. Closing date for responses is (insert date). Please return ASAP. Please also do not hesitate to contact your AMA on 9273 3000 and advise your colleagues, in case they have not received this survey, to contact us on 9273 3000.

PROFESSOR GARY GEELHOED  
PRESIDENT AMA(WA)

\* 1. From a contract point of view, do you regard your contract overall as fair and balanced?

Yes

No

If no, please detail in the comments section of this question whether you would prefer a salaried or some other form of contract or if happy with the conceptual base of your contract. Please detail hereunder, particular clauses in your contract (Medical Services Agreement) that are of concern. NB A copy of the model contract that may apply to you is available on the AMA (WA) website for ease of reference. If this is not applicable please advise separately. Major sections of the contract are listed in subsequent questions for comment.

## AMA (WA) VMP Contract - Your Views (1)

\* 2. Clause 2: Engagement of Contracting Medical Practitioner - How do you find this particular clause?

Satisfactory

Unsatisfactory

Are there any changes required - please specify

\* 3. Clause 3: Obligations of the Board - How do you find this particular Clause?

Satisfactory

Unsatisfactory

Are there any changes required? (please specify)

\* 4. Clause 4: Obligations of Contracting medical Practitioner - How do you find this particular clause?

Satisfactory

Unsatisfactory

Are there any changes required ? (please specify)

\* 5. Clause 5: Nominated Medical Practitioners and Clinical Priviledges - How do you find this particular clause?

Satisfactory

Unsatisfactory

Are there any changes required? (please specify)

\* 6. Clause 6: Payment - How do you find this particular clause?

Satisfactory

Unsatisfactory

Are there any changes required? (please specify)

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\* 7. Clause 7: Term and Suspension or Termination of Agreement - How do you find this particular clause?

Satisfactory

Unsatisfactory

Believe I should either have an ongoing contract or option to renew

Are there any changes required? (please specify)

\* 8. Clause 8: Force Majeure (where for reasons beyond their control a party cannot fulfil their obligations) - How do you find this particular clause?

Satisfactory

Unsatisfactory

Are there any changes required? (please specify)

\* 9. Clause 9: Dispute Resolution Process - How do you find this particular clause?

Satisfactory

Unsatisfactory

Are there any changes required? (please specify)

\* 10. Clause 10: Notices - How do you find this particular clause?

Satisfactory

Unsatisfactory

Are there any changes required? (please specify)

\* 11. Clause 11: Miscellaneous - How do you find this particular clause?

Satisfactory

Unsatisfactory

Are there any changes required? (please specify)

# AMA (WA) VMP Contract - Your Views (1)

## 2. Section 2: Fees/Remuneration

\* 12. Are you broadly happy with the existing basse level of remuneration payable under the WAPHFS for clinical services? (see question 16 on the seprate issues of rural loading and annual indexations)

Yes

No

In hours

Out of hours

Comments/suggestions re individual item numbers and descriptors (please specify)

\* 13. Do you think the current rural loading applicable to your claims on top of the WAPHFS rates is appropriate?

Yes

No

Comments/Suggestions (please specify)

\* 14. Are you happy with the remuneration for either being called in during consulting hours, available/on call and call backs out of hours or for other services set out in the schedule of your contract?

Yes

No

Not applicable

Comments (please specify)

\* 15. Have you tried to negotiate aspects of your remuneration with hospital management?

Yes

No

Comments (please specify)

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\* 16. Current annual indexation has been based on submissions by AMA (WA) using the Federal AMA Medical Fees Indices which seeks to reflect movements in practice costs and community movements in income based on advice from Access Economics - Are you happy with this approach?

Yes

No

Comments (please specify)

## 3. Section 3: Management Support

★ 17. How would you rate management support (and consequential resources)for Medical Practitioners generally?

Excellent

Good

Average

Below Average

Poor

★ 18. How would you rate the extent to which management consults the Hospital Medical Advisory Committee and Clinicians and takes in to account their advice either addressing clinicians concerns or seeking to make changes?

Excellent

Good

Average

Below Average

Poor

Please list any specific positives, negatives or suggestions?

## 4. Section 4: Other issues

19. Do you have any other issues you believe your AMA should be seeking to address e.g. scope of indemnity. other support for rural doctors e.g. I.T.?

## 5. Section 5: Demographics

\* 20. Please indicate which best describes your category? (NB More than one option can be ticked)

- Unmet Area of Need/Conditional Medical Registration
- Unconditional Registration
- Permanent Resident
- Temporary Resident

\* 21. What Health Region are you currently working within?

- Geraldton/Midwest
- Goldfields
- South West
- Great Southern
- Central/Wheatbelt
- Other

If you ticked Other (please specify)

\* 22. What % of your total income is derived from your public patient VMP appointment?

- Less than 10%
- 10 - 20%
- 21 - 30%
- 30 - 50%
- Above 50%

\* 23. What is your length of service in rural WA?

- Less than 5 years
- More than 5 years but less than 10 years
- More than 10 years



## AMA (WA) VMP Contract - Your Views (1)

\* 24. What are your future intentions?

- Remain in rural practice for foreseeable future
- Remain in rural practice subject to acceptable VMP contract
- Will leave in less than three years

Please specify reason

\* 25. Is email the best means of contacting you and providing you with rural updates?

- Yes
- No

If No please include preferred contact means/address

### 6. Thank You!

AMA (WA) would like to thank you for your time in completing the survey. Should you have any questions or concerns regarding the survey please contact the AMA (WA) on 9273 3000