



AMA

**Family
medicine is
running out
of time!**



AMA

For more information contact
www.ama.com.au
www.supportfamilydoctors.com.au



Please sign the AMA petition in this practice.

The petition will be used to urge the major political parties to release policies that support and preserve the vital role of family doctors in local communities all around Australia.

By signing the petition, you will remind our politicians that you vote and that you insist on policies that:

- Support your right to choose your family doctor;
- Support your right to see your family doctor as often as you need to;
- Support the central role of your family doctor in delivering health care and advice to you and your family;
- Provide support that will enable you to spend more time with your family doctor when you need it; and
- Cut red tape – minimise the paperwork and processes that reduce the time that family doctors can spend caring for patients.

Please sign the petition today.

This petition is an initiative of the AMA.



SUPPORT FAMILY DOCTORS
the heart of health.



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Support your family doctor

Recent AMA research found that 88 per cent of people have a usual family doctor and that 83 per cent of people are very satisfied or satisfied with the medical care they receive from their family doctor.

It is clear that Australians rate their family doctor as the most important part of the health system.

The family doctor is the first point of contact in the health system for most Australian families. When people get sick or injured or want advice about their health, they want to see a doctor.

The family doctor must remain the foundation of the health system.

People want to be able to choose their own family doctor and they want to be able to spend more time with their doctor when they or a family member are ill or seeking advice about their health.

But Australia's family doctors are under enormous pressure.

Australia has an ageing population, which means that there are more people with complex and chronic health conditions that require more time with their doctor.

Bureaucratic red tape in the form of paperwork and processes for the Government is keeping family doctors away from spending more time with their patients.

Medicare patient rebates have not kept up with the cost of delivering health services, and this affects the amount of time you get to spend with your family doctor.

Some of the new GP Super Clinics are being opened too close to existing general practices, and this is affecting the livelihood of many local family doctors.

How you can help your family doctor

The countdown to the 2010 Federal Election has started.

You have a chance to influence the health policies that will be voted on at this election.

Good health policy will win votes for the major parties.

Supporting family doctors is a very good health policy.

All Australia's family doctors need your help to continue providing the quality health care that you deserve.

