

# Hon Carmel Sepuloni

MP for Kelston

Minister for Social Development and Employment

Minister for ACC

Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage

Minister for Disability Issues



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Sandra Oster  
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Tēnā koe Sandra Oster

Thank you for your letter of 16 November 2020 to Hon Andrew Little, Minister of Health regarding the regulation of Nursing Practitioners.

Hon Little has asked me, as Minister for ACC, to respond to your concern that ACC has not implemented a legislative change to allow a combined consultation rate to be charged to an ACC client who visits a Nurse Practitioner and Registered Nurse, in keeping with the Omnibus legislative changes of 2016.

ACC informs me that the Omnibus legislative changes, which came into effect on 31 January 2018, were made to ensure that suitably qualified health practitioners would be able to carry out some activities that could previously only be done by doctors. The Accident Compensation Amendment Act 2016 implemented these changes, allowing health practitioners providing treatment to a client to be given the opportunity to participate in the preparation of the client's individual rehabilitation plans. Suitably qualified health practitioners are also able to prescribe aids and appliances.

ACC's contribution to the cost of treatment is set out in the Accident Compensation (Liability to Pay or Contribute to Cost of Treatment) Regulations 2003, which are reviewed every two years.

ACC advises me that a Nurse Practitioner/Registered Nurse combined consultation rate may be considered during the next review of the Cost of Treatment Regulations. I note that any future proposed changes to those regulations will take time to work through, and any recommendations for change will need to go through public consultation and Cabinet consideration.

Thank you again for writing. I hope that this information is useful.

Yours sincerely

Hon Carmel Sepuloni  
Minister for ACC