



# Health Insurance Amendment Regulation 2012 (No. 4)<sup>1</sup>

**Select Legislative Instrument 2012 No. 294**

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I, QUENTIN BRYCE, Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia, acting with the advice of the Federal Executive Council, make the following regulation under the *Health Insurance Act 1973*.

Dated 6 December 2012

QUENTIN BRYCE  
Governor-General

By Her Excellency's Command

TANYA PLIBERSEK  
Minister for Health

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**1 Name of regulation**

This regulation is the *Health Insurance Amendment Regulation 2012 (No. 4)*.

**2 Commencement**

This regulation commences on 27 December 2012.

**3 Amendment of *Health Insurance Regulations 1975***

Schedule 1 amends the *Health Insurance Regulations 1975*.

**Schedule 1 Amendments**

(section 3)

**[1] Regulation 29, heading**

*substitute*

**29 Manner of patient referrals**

**[2] Subregulation 29 (1)**

*substitute*

- (1) For section 132A of the Act, this regulation and regulations 30 and 31 set out the manner in which a patient is to be referred by a referring practitioner to another practitioner for the purposes of:

- (a) an item in the general medical services table; or
- (b) an item in a determination made under subsection 3C (1) of the Act;

specifying a service to be rendered by a specialist or consultant physician, in the practice of his or her speciality, to a patient referred to the specialist or consultant physician.

**[3] Regulation 31, heading**

*substitute*

**31 Period of validity for referrals****[4] Subregulation 31 (1)**

*omit*

Subject to subregulations (1A), (1B) and (1C), a referral given under regulation 29 is valid:

*insert*

Unless the period of validity for a referral is otherwise provided for in this regulation, the referral may state a period for which it remains valid and it will remain valid:

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**Note**

1. All legislative instruments and compilations are registered on the Federal Register of Legislative Instruments kept under the *Legislative Instruments Act 2003*. See [www.comlaw.gov.au](http://www.comlaw.gov.au).