



5 February 2016

## Prostheses Reform Group Welcomed by Private Hospitals

Today's announcement of the establishment of a prostheses reform industry working group by Health Minister Ley is welcomed by the Australian Private Hospitals Association.

"We are pleased to see the Minister announce this working group," said Michael Roff, Chief Executive Officer of the Australian Private Hospitals Association. "The establishment of this group is just one element we called for in our recent submission to Government and we welcome the opportunity to participate in a detailed review of the Prostheses List."

"We are concerned that recent media reports have given the impression that there are easy and immediate savings to be made through unilateral cuts to benefit levels set by the Prostheses List. The list is large and complex and we look forward to discussing the issues with other members of the industry and the Government to ensure all parties understand the direct and indirect consequences of changing any benefit levels. It is also time for health funds to stop making broad generalisations about the Prostheses List and bring the evidence they have to the table."

"We are also very pleased that the Minister has acknowledged the need to ensure the current pricing for prostheses is not unnecessarily holding up new devices and technology being available to patients," concluded Mr Roff.

**-ENDS-**

*For more information, contact:*

*Lisa Ramshaw, APHA Director of Communications on 0413 971 999*