

# Government Advertisement: 'Strengthening Medicare' Campaign

## Television Advertisement, 2004

Q: What's this about the new Medicare safety net?

A: It's one of the ways we're strengthening Medicare. While Medicare has always covered you in public hospital, the new Safety Net protects you against high medical costs when you haven't been admitted to hospital.

Q: Like what I pay to my GP?

A: Yes, the costs for a whole range of treatments - like specialists, x-rays, tests, scans...

Q: But we already get a Medicare rebate on those.

A: And that will continue but often you need to pay a gap, and that's where this helps.

Q: So how does it work?

A: Now, once your extra costs reach a certain level, Medicare will pay eighty per cent of that gap for the rest of the year.

Q: Sound good - but when does it kick in?

A: For most families with children and concession card holders, the level is \$300 a year. For everyone else - \$700.

Q: Is that \$300 each

A: No, for couples it's for both of you. And for families it includes all of you.

Q: That should be a help.

A: The New Safety Net. It's just one of the ways we're strengthening Medicare.

A: To find out more, watch out for this booklet.

Source: Transcribed from television advertisement.