Australian Health Care Reform Alliance tweets compiled by Croakey News on 16 August 2019

AHCRA @AusHealthReform · Aug 15
"...those with private health insurance faced double the out-of-pocket expenses as those without it, and ultimately a greater financial impact."
New research confirming that private health insurance is not meeting consumers' needs.

abc.net.au/news/2019-08-1... #itsadud

AHCRA @AusHealthReform · Aug 14
Private health insurance receives a greater subsidy than manufacturing ever did, even at its peak. The Grattan Institute's @stephenjduckett says "...propping up industries in the face of consumers turning away from their products is not a long-term proposition." #itsadud

AHCRA @AusHealthReform · Aug 14
Also from @JennaPrice "This [private health care] is a distorted market. Those who make the market have all the power and those forced to shop in the market have none." #itsadud

AHCRA @AusHealthReform · Aug 14
And journalist and academic @JennaPrice has said of private health insurance "The $9 billion of government money propping up these failures is my good money – and yours – being thrown after bad money." #itsadud
AHCRA @AusHealthReform · Aug 14
Industry and public sector management expert Ian McAuley has commented, there isn’t anything PHI can do that isn’t done more efficiently and more equitably by Medicare. #itsadud

AHCRA @AusHealthReform · Aug 14
And even the Coalition’s own @TerryBarnes5 has said “Private health insurance is about as popular as a fart in a lift”. #itsadud

AHCRA @AusHealthReform · Aug 14
And ex-CEO of PHIAC @ShaunGoth said extras cover was an “irrational” purchase for most people and “In a world of fiscal purity [buying extras insurance] probably doesn’t make sense.” #itsadud

AHCRA @AusHealthReform · Aug 14
Economics editor of the SMH, Ross Gittins has said “subsidising private health insurance doesn’t only advantage the better-off (including yours truly), it makes healthcare more expensive than it needs to be” and “Private health insurance is a con job.” #itsadud

AHCRA @AusHealthReform · Aug 14
PHI is inefficient in two main ways: its administrative costs are three times higher than those of Medicare and it is unable to control providers’ fees. #itsadud

AHCRA @AusHealthReform · Aug 14
Documents leaked to Guardian Australia earlier this month showed Australia’s biggest private health insurers had rejected claims from thousands of members, falsely telling them this was due to a review by a medical practitioner. #itsadud
Australian Health Care Reform Alliance tweets compiled by Croakey News on 16 August 2019

AHCRA @AusHealthReform · Aug 14
Michael West, Adjunct Associate Professor, University of Sydney says "Health insurance is yet another taxpayer-subsidised sector whose financial disclosures are murky to the point of deception." #itsadud

AHCRA @AusHealthReform · Aug 14
Podger points out that the tax benefits (the Medicare surcharge exemption) for higher-income groups bear no relationship to private premiums and may even exceed the premiums that funds charge. #itsadud

AHCRA @AusHealthReform · Aug 14
Andrew Podger, ex-head of Dept of Health and honorary professor of public policy at ANU describes private health insurance policy as "a hodgepodge of subsidies and regulations that are confusing, distorting, costly and inequitable." #itsadud

AHCRA @AusHealthReform · Aug 14
It's not just you.......Scott Pape, the Barefoot Investor, says that private health insurance is "probably screwing you over" and isn't worthwhile for anyone under 31 or anyone earning less than $90,000 a year. #itsadud