

Question 21 (continued)

- (c) Assess the impact that the health status of Australians has on the provision of health care facilities and services.

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All Australians can access medicare. This can be used for doctors, hospitals and services, but not on things like Dentistry and optometry. Many doctors like to bulk Bill their patients, and then receive 85% of that back. People in remote areas and economically disadvantage can be less likely to get medicare meaning certain procedures and medical requirements will not be affordable for them. Other people are in a private fund which they choose because they can choose their own doctor and hospital, there are shorter waiting times. Since medicare was introduced more people have opted out of private funds. There is also the Pharmaceutical Benefits scheme which gives people the opportunity to purchase prescriptions and certain medical needs at a lower cost than normal. This is especially beneficial to people who are socio-economically

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disadvantaged.

People can go into institutional care such as public and private hospitals and services. Non-institutional care consists of

Nursing homes, mental homes.

Services such as physiotherapy, radiology, dermatology etc, can all be accessed by Australians but can be very expensive.

Which is why they are not accessed frequently, and especially from people in rural and remote areas and

people of a low income. More

people these days also seem to be heading to more natural care

for care such as aromatherapy, yoga, herbal medicines, massage,

acupuncture and naturopathy etc, as

they prefer this way to operations, and

is becoming more widely used and

accepted. The Health of Australians is

here to be cured, but it can be

costly, and the government needs

to focus on prevention rather than cure.

End of Question 21