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MEDIA RELEASE

Labor PBS announcement

The Pharmacy Guild welcomes Federal Labor's confirmation that it would not proceed with the above-CPI increases in the PBS co-payments and safety net thresholds that were announced in the 2014 Federal Budget.

Labor's announcement provides patients with certainty about what they would be expected to contribute to the cost of their medicines under a Shorten Government.

Health Minister Sussan Ley has previously indicated she does not intend to proceed with these co-payment and safety net threshold increases, but they have been kept in the forward estimates.

The Guild understands that any savings from this 2014 Budget measure were being devoted to the Medical Research Future Fund rather than to the budget bottom line.

The May Budget confirmed the Government already stands to reap over \$20 billion in savings from PBS reforms between 2015 and 2020, making it the most fiscally sustainable part of the entire health system.

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