



MEDIA RELEASE

HCF wins top health insurance award for sixth consecutive year

Sydney, 15 September 2014 – A focus on affordable and flexible health cover options has seen Australia's largest non-profit private health insurer, HCF, awarded the highest national honour in the annual CANSTAR awards for outstanding value health insurance for the sixth consecutive year.

The CANSTAR awards recognise the best-value private health insurance across Australia. They result from detailed research and analysis of 26,000 quotes for over 700 eligible health insurance products from more than 22 health insurance providers. These are measured against 13 lifestyle profiles and providers are then rated for hospital, extras and package cover.

HCF's hospital cover, in particular, was highly regarded for outstanding value and its flexibility to suit a range of household budgets, with HCF's Top Plus and Budget products both receiving a CANSTAR tick of approval.

In the extras category HCF's Multicover Only policy achieved a 5-star rating (the highest possible) across the Eastern seaboard.

HCF ranked among the top five funds for combined hospital and extras cover in six of seven states and territories.

HCF's Managing Director, Shaun Larkin, said of the win: "We welcome this recognition from CANSTAR, which is testament to our commitment to delivering affordable private health insurance for members. It shows our non-profit model is working for members. Because HCF does not pay dividends to shareholders we can invest in member value by providing better benefits.

"HCF continues to explore new ways to make health insurance more accessible for Australians contending with cost-of-living pressures. Flexible and innovative products like our family budget cover, which includes per-person benefits, demonstrate how HCF is applying innovation to create value for members."

CANSTAR Research Manager Mitchell Watson said of HCF's performance: "HCF provided a winning combination of features and price across the various life stages that we assess. We congratulate them on their achievement winning CANSTAR's national award for outstanding value health insurance."

The CANSTAR award is the latest in a series of endorsements for HCF, which has also been named global "Innovator of the Year" for 2014 by ReadSoft Sweden, and received a Gold Award for annual reporting in the 2014 Australasian Reporting Awards.

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Issued on behalf of HCF by Sefiani Communications Group. Media inquiries to Karen Dunicliff on ph. (02) 8920 0700, mob. 0435 807 761 or kdunicliff@sefiani.com.au

About HCF

HCF is Australia's largest non-profit health insurer, currently covering more than 1.5 million Australians. To learn more about HCF go to <http://www.hcf.com.au/about-us>.