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Tax Compliance

Medical Rebate

The threshold for claiming a medical rebate for the 2011 income year is \$2,000. You need to have a gap of \$2,000 among yourself, your spouse and your dependent children. After this year the threshold will be indexed so for 2011-2012 year it will be \$2,060. If you are close to the threshold it may be worth considering bringing forward some expenses e.g. A dental appointment due in July could be made for June to bring it into the income year.

What is eligible?

Payments to doctors, nurses, chemists and dentists in respect of illness, operation and dental care (including artificial teeth).

Surgical appliances and aids are eligible provided a doctor has prescribed them. Medication that has been prescribed by a doctor can be included. Non-prescription medication is eligible if it is in respect of an illness and has been purchased from a qualified chemist. Cold and flu tablets purchased from a pharmacy are fine, but not purchased from a supermarket.

Therapeutic treatments can be included if a doctor's referral has been obtained – this includes physiotherapy, dieticians, chiropractors, naturopaths, optical services including corrective vision surgery are fine.

Cosmetic procedures are not eligible unless it is for legitimate medical needs e.g. reconstructive surgery. Generally, if an expense qualifies for a Medicare benefit it will be eligible. Something's may qualify for a private health insurance rebate but not be eligible.

“ACCOUNTANTS
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