

## HCF RECOGNISED WITH 5 STAR CANSTAR NATIONAL AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING VALUE HEALTH INSURANCE

**Sydney, 23 September, 2016** – HCF, Australia’s leading not-for-profit health fund, has been awarded with highest national honour in the annual CANSTAR awards for **outstanding value health insurance**.

CANSTAR’s 2016 Health Insurance Star Ratings – the largest ever undertaken by CANSTAR in health insurance - assessed the price and features of 628 health insurance products from 24 insurers and **recognised HCF as providing outstanding value to consumers to Australia-wide**.

HCF Extra’s cover also achieved Outstanding Value awards in specific states and segments – including New South Wales, South Australia, Western Australia and Tasmania.

HCF’s Extras cover, in particular the ‘Silver Plus’ product, achieved a highly impressive five stars for Outstanding Value across the board – that’s 91/91 profiles assessed by CANSTAR. HCF also achieved wide 5 star value across both Hospital-only and Package (Hospital + Extras) cover.

HCF Managing Director, Shaun Larkin, said of the recognition: “We’re pleased to be recognised by CANSTAR as delivering outstanding value in health insurance across Australia. This reflects positively on our ‘mutual ethos’ and that we exist solely for the benefit of our members. Being recognised for **outstanding value in health insurance** also points directly at our Purpose – to make health care affordable, understandable, high quality and customer-centric.”

“The recognition of our Extras products in particular demonstrates our commitment to offering a range of services which provide value for members.”

An example of HCF’s demonstrated value in Extra’s products (Bronze Plus, Silver Plus, Gold and Platinum) is the **HCF More for Teeth** dental program, launched in 2012, which offers members an annual free examination, scale, clean and fluoride treatment as well as an x-ray and mouth guard. The program is superior to other offerings in the market and is available at over 10,300 dentists across Australia.

“We are proud of our More for Teeth dental program and the great oral health benefits it delivers to our members. Our Mission at HCF is to be a true partner in people’s health. It’s important Australians have a clear understanding of the value of each policy in order to make an informed choice about their cover and ultimately look after their health for the long term.”

The 2016 CANSTAR award is the seventh award for HCF for outstanding value health insurance.

**-Ends-**

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### ***About HCF***

HCF, leading not-for-profit health fund protecting Australians since 1932, covers over 1.5 million members with health and life insurance, community care, travel and pet insurance.

On average over the last five years, HCF has paid out more cents in every dollar in premiums to members as benefits than the industry average. With over 35,000 specialists participating in its Medical Gap Cover Scheme and more than 10,000 clinicians participating in its 100% back *More for You* programs, HCF gives members access to quality health care with no gaps or minimal costs compared to non-participating providers.

To empower members to put their health first, HCF also offers a range of health and lifestyle services including its *My Health Guardian* health management program, mobile Victor Chang Heart Health Checks and *My Global Specialist* second opinion service.

HCF's national network of retail outlets and Australian-based call centres have earned multi-award winning status. HCF members also have access to low cost, high quality services at HCF Dental Centres and HCF Eyecare Centres.

Having contributed \$50 million to support the health services research funded by the HCF Research Foundation, HCF is devoted to investing in the future of Australia's health.

To learn more about HCF go to [hcf.com.au/about-us](http://hcf.com.au/about-us)

### ***About CANSTAR***

CANSTAR provides Australia's interactive online research service in consumer and business finance.

Founded in 1992, CANSTAR Pty Limited is Australia's researcher of retail finance information for over 250 institutions such as Banks, Building Societies, Credit Unions, Finance Companies, Brokers, Mortgage Originators, Life Companies and finance related Internet Portals. CANSTAR customers use the extensive database for competitor analysis as well as a means of disseminating their product range. CANSTAR also distributes this information to print and electronic media for publication and to Agents, Accountants, Brokers and Internet Portals for use in advising their clients.

### **What are the CANSTAR star ratings?**

CANSTAR researches, compares and rates the suite of banking and insurance products listed below. Results are freely available to consumers who use the star ratings as a guide to product excellence. The use of similar star ratings logos also builds consumer recognition of quality products across all categories. Please access the CANSTAR website at [www.canstar.com.au](http://www.canstar.com.au) if you would like to view the latest star ratings reports of interest.