

**AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT**  
**HEALTH INSURANCE ACT 1973**

**Health Insurance (Eligible persons and citizens of Italy) Order 2017**

I, GREG HUNT, Minister for Health, pursuant to subsection 6(1) of the *Health Insurance Act 1973* ('the Act'), hereby DECLARE that:

- (a) Every person included in the specified class of persons:
- (i) the person is a citizen of Italy who is eligible for services under the national health legislation of Italy; and
  - (ii) the person is lawfully present but not ordinarily resident in Australia,

being a person who, but for this Order, would not be an eligible person for the purposes of the Act shall, for a period not exceeding six months after the person's last entry to Australia, be treated as being an eligible person for the purposes of the Act.

- (b) This Order shall have effect from the date of signature.

Dated this 26th day of October 2017

GREG HUNT  
MINISTER FOR HEALTH

## ATTACHMENT – STATEMENT OF REASONS

*Health Insurance Act 1973*

Class Order under Subsection 6(1)

**ORDER NO:** 811  
**DATE OF ORDER:** 2017  
**RELATED ORDERS:**  
**NAME OF PERSON OR GROUP:** Citizens of Italy

### REASONS FOR APPROVAL:

Citizens of Italy who are lawfully present in Australia but not ordinarily resident in Australia are eligible for Medicare upon arrival in Australia, while on a visa that exceeds 6 months.

This is an interim measure to address an anomaly in the Australia-Italy Reciprocal Health Care Agreement. Currently, the agreement does not permit a person entering Australia on a visa exceeding a 6 month period to be eligible for Medicare.

Note: The name of this instrument was amended on registration as the instrument as lodged did not have a unique name (see subsection 10(2), *Legislation Rule 2016*).