



**JULIE COLLINS MP  
SHADOW MINISTER FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND LOCAL  
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MEMBER FOR FRANKLIN**

**TONY ABBOTT'S DOUBLE HIT ON SICK PEOPLE IN FRANKLIN**

The Federal Member for Franklin, Julie Collins, said families across the electorate would be among those hardest hit by Tony Abbott's decisions to introduce a new \$7 GP tax and increase the cost of medicines.

Ms Collins said the combination of Tony Abbott's new GP tax and his medicines price hike meant Franklin residents would pay more.

"The sick and vulnerable will pay for Tony Abbott's broken promises on health and that's not right," Ms Collins said.

Health Department figures obtained by Labor reveal the GP Tax and medicine price hikes will cost sick people living in Franklin \$21 million over the next four years.

Ms Collins said Tony Abbott promised the Australian people '*no cuts to health*' before the election and he also guaranteed families in Franklin that he was '*about getting rid of taxes, not imposing new taxes*'.

"Tony Abbott broke his promises when he cut more than \$50 billion from hospitals and hit people with a \$7 GP Tax," Ms Collins said.

"Tony Abbott also wants to force people to pay an extra \$1.2 billion for medicines over the next four years. For patients in Franklin, it will mean paying 15 per cent more for prescription medicines.

"The combination of the new GP tax and the medicines price hike will cost every single person in Franklin an average of \$219. This is a cruel and heartless hit on the the sick and the vulnerable who can least afford an increase in medical costs," Ms Collins said.

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