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CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS IN HEALTH POLICY

Australasian Haemochromatosis Conference
Brisbane, Queensland
6 – 7 August 2016

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Australian Health Reform

Current initiatives to deliver the Government's agenda on health reform, include:

- Development of the National Strategic Framework for Chronic Conditions
- Development of the Implementation Plan for the Australian National Diabetes Strategy 2016-2020
- Creation of Primary Health Networks (PHNs)
- Redevelopment of My Health Record
- Review of the Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS)
- Trial of Health Care Homes



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National Strategic Framework for Chronic Conditions

- The Australian Government, in partnership with states and territories, is currently developing a National Strategic Framework for Chronic Conditions.
- The Framework moves away from a disease specific approach and will better cater for shared health determinants, risk factors and multimorbidities across a broad range of chronic conditions.
- The Framework will provide the opportunity to consider how best to facilitate coordinated, integrated and multidisciplinary care, improve utilisation of primary health care organisations, and recognise patient needs across the continuum of care.



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National Strategic Framework for Chronic Conditions

- Stakeholder feedback has informed the development of the Framework through:
 - ✓ National targeted consultations on a first draft Framework occurred between September and November 2015, consisting of thirteen half day workshops in nine locations across Australia.
 - ✓ A six-week online public consultation process on a second draft Framework was held from May to June 2016.
- Once developed, the Framework will be progressed through the Australian Health Ministers Advisory Council approval process prior to publication and dissemination.
- It is expected that the Framework will be completed in late 2016



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Australian National Diabetes Strategy 2016 - 2020

- In 2013, the Australian Government made an election commitment to develop a new National Diabetes Strategy.
- The Strategy was launched on 13 November 2015 to coincide with World Diabetes Day on 14 November 2015.
- The Strategy contains seven goals with potential areas for action identified that provide a range of ideas for implementation while recognising the fiscal outlook facing all governments.
- The National Diabetes Strategy sits under the National Strategic Framework or Chronic Conditions and is consistent with the proposed principles and direction of the Framework.



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Implementation of the Australian National Diabetes Strategy 2016 - 2020

- On 2 October 2015, AHMAC agreed that an Implementation Plan for the Strategy be developed in negotiation with states and territories.
- The Australian National Diabetes Strategy 2016-2020 Implementation Working Group (IWG) was established in early 2016, and is chaired by a representative from the Commonwealth, with membership from state and territory jurisdictions.
- Terms of Reference for the IWG have been established and are available on the Department of Health website:
<http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/andsiwig>
- The Strategy is available on the Department of Health's website at
www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/nds-2016-2020.



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Prevention – Obesity and Physical Activity

Health Star Rating System



- Enables comparisons between similar packaged foods, within the total diet.
- Approximately 90 companies and over 4000 products on supermarket shelves so far.

Guidelines

- Australia's Physical Activity and Sedentary Behaviour Guidelines 2014
- Australian Dietary Guidelines 2013
- Guidelines for Management of overweight and obesity 2013
- Healthy Weight Guide (website)





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Prevention – Obesity and Physical Activity

Girls Make Your Move

- Awareness campaign directed at girls aged 12-19.
- Aims to encourage and support young women to be more active and reinforce the benefits of an active life, whether through recreation, sport, or incidental physical activity.



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Primary Health Networks (PHNs)

- 31 PHNs were established in July 2015 to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of health services and improve coordination of care
- PHNs will commission services to address the health needs identified within their region
- Strong governance and effective engagement with clinicians and communities are critical



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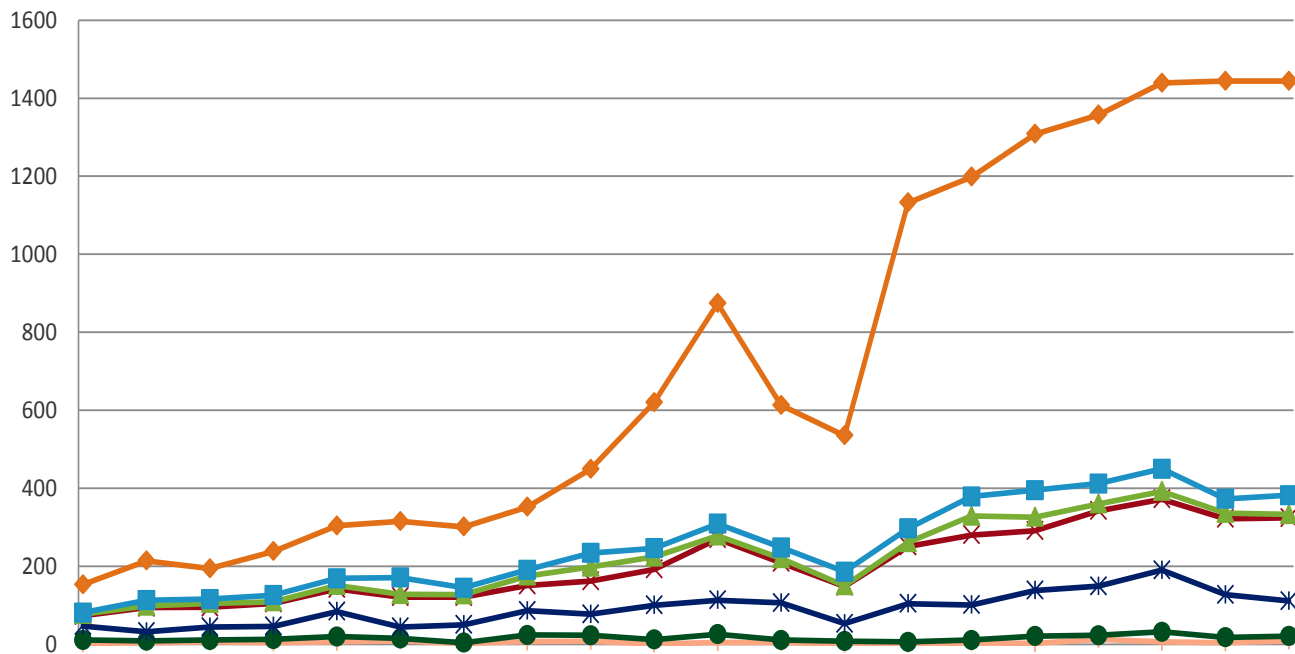
My Health Record Redevelopment Achievements Year 1 – 2015/16

- Legislation passed in December 2015
- Opt out trials – Northern QLD and Nepean Blue Mountains NSW
- Opt in trials – Western VIC and Southern WA
- A major system release implemented on 4 April 2016;
 - Renaming, opt out facilities and Advance Care Plans
- Online training facilities for all healthcare providers from April 2016
- Changed eligibility requirements for ePIP in place from 1 May 2016
- PHNs equipped to train and support healthcare providers from May
- A 2nd major release implemented on 25 June 2016;
 - Consumer and provider portals fully mobile responsive;
 - Access and support for mobile applications;
- Continued My Health Record system operations; and
- The commencement of the Australian Digital Health Agency on 1 July 2016



My Health Record – Provider Views

Provider views of clinical documents in My Health Record system



	7/02	14/02	21/02	28/02	6/03	13/03	20/03	27/03	3/04	10/04	17/04	24/04	1/05	8/05	15/05	22/05	29/05	5/06	12/06	19/06
Shared Health Summary	72	101	78	112	135	144	156	161	215	374	565	365	349	835	819	913	945	989	1071	1062
Event Summary	4	15	11	17	18	43	18	16	36	22	31	28	36	36	50	69	52	58	37	49
Dispense Record	4	4	10	4	9	7	6	24	36	32	8	11	2	10	49	35	18	20	14	9
Discharge Summary	26	62	51	59	58	77	71	65	85	92	157	103	95	147	179	153	193	182	195	213
Prescription Record	36	23	33	33	64	29	46	62	54	88	87	95	45	98	90	117	126	158	109	90
Specialist Letter	9	5	5	9	14	6	2	17	15	11	21	6	7	5	7	19	10	26	14	12
Diagnostic Imaging	2	4	6	4	6	9	2	7	8	1	5	5	1	1	4	2	13	6	4	9



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Healthier Medicare - Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS) Review

- The MBS has more than 5,700 services, most of which have never been reviewed.
- With the speed of advances in technology and health care delivery, plus the amount of time some items have been listed, it makes sense that we now conduct a comprehensive, systematic review, to align the MBS with the healthcare needs of today and eliminate waste and inefficiencies in our Medicare system.



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Healthier Medicare - Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS) Review

- The MBS Review Taskforce is currently exploring ways to make the MBS a better tool to improve health outcomes for Australians. This reviews process is not about cutting services or reducing funding; there is no savings target attached to the reviews. This is an open and transparent process.
- As part of the ongoing consultation process with relevant stakeholders, the MBS Review Taskforce Diagnostic Imaging Clinical Committee and Pathology Clinical Committee are finalising their reports for public consultation in August 2016. All feedback from the consultation process will be accepted by the MBS Review Taskforce and considered.



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Healthier Medicare – Health Care Homes

- On 31 March 2016 the Minister for Health, the Hon Sussan Ley MP, announced funding for the implementation of Stage 1 of Health Care Homes.
- Up to 200 HCHs will offer services to up to 65,000 people with chronic and complex conditions commencing 1 July 2017.
- \$21.3 million allocated to evaluate the model and help providers and patients transition to the new care arrangements and \$93 million in redirected MBS for clinical services.
- Further roll out will be informed by the results of an evaluation prior to consideration by Government.



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Healthier Medicare – Health Care Homes

- The model is consistent with the PHCAG recommendations and the COAG agreement for public hospital funding.
- Eligible patients will voluntarily enrol with a participating medical practice known as their ‘Health Care Home’ for ongoing coordination, management and support.
- ‘Home Base’ will be in General Practices and Aboriginal Medical Services where patients will nominate a preferred clinician to oversee their care.



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Thank you...

Questions...?