



# Chief Nursing and Midwifery Officer

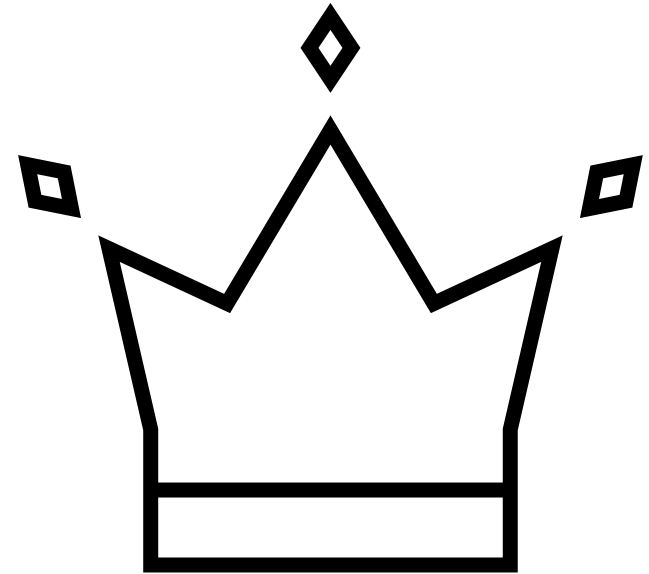
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# The leadership role of nurses and midwives

Nurses and midwives are the custodians and facilitators of the quality of care in any health system.

Nursing leadership roles will be a feature in the National Nursing Workforce Strategy being developed by the Commonwealth.

Need to build on this leadership as we emerge from the pandemic and make sure the range of opportunities are there for both new graduates and more experienced nurses and midwives.



# National Roadmap for Improving the Health of People with Intellectual Disability

- The Australian Government released the National Roadmap for Improving the Health of People with Intellectual Disability in 2021, to address serious health inequities faced by people with intellectual disability.
- It outlines how we can create a health system where people with intellectual disability are valued, respected, and have access to high quality, timely and comprehensive health care.
- The Australian Government is investing \$43.3 million to fund the following priorities of the roadmap:
  - Primary Care Enhancement Program for people with intellectual disability (PCEP)
  - Improving annual health assessments for people with intellectual disability
  - Curriculum development in intellectual disability health
  - National Centre of Excellence in Intellectual Disability Health.

## National Roadmap for Improving the Health of People with Intellectual Disability July 2021



# Work Underway for Nursing

- National Nursing Workforce Strategy/Nursing Supply and Demand
- Nurse Practitioner Workforce Plan
- Strengthening Medicare Taskforce
  - Scope of Practice Review
  - Scholarships
  - Clinical Placements program
    - Aged Care
    - Primary Care
  - General practice incentives review/ workforce incentive program
- Transition to Practice Programs
  - Primary Care
  - Aged Care



# National Nursing Workforce Strategy

- Developed in partnership with Victoria and in collaboration with all jurisdictions and stakeholders
- Aiming to ensure the nursing profession is recognised and valued within the health system
- Focus on career pathways from novice to expert
- Workforce sustainability
  - Workforce planning and data sharing
- Diversity of the profession
  - Grow First Nations nurses and the cultural safety of non-Indigenous nurses
  - Leadership and management
- Building our capability in regional, rural and remote nursing



# Nurse Practitioner Workforce Plan

- Launched by Assistant Minister Kearney on 16 May 2023
- Aims to:
  - Increase NP services across the country
  - Improve community awareness and knowledge of NP services
  - Support NPs to work to their optimal scope of practice
  - Grow the NP workforce to reflect the diversity of the community and improve cultural safety
- Implementation has commenced:
  - Increasing MBS rebates for NP services by 30%
  - Additional MBS items for case conferencing, and burns dressings
  - Removal of legislative requirement for collaborative arrangements with a medical professional
  - Review of Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme medicines that NPs can prescribe

## Nurse Practitioner Workforce Plan



# Unleashing the potential of our health workforce review

The 2023-24 Federal Budget provides funding over 2023-24 and 2024-25 to conduct a scope of practice review, announced by Minister Butler on 24 August 2023. Professor Mark Cormack will lead the independent review.

- Enabling health practitioners to work to their full scope of practice aims to improve consumer access to primary care and equity of outcomes including in rural, regional and remote areas
- Health professions considered include:
  - general practitioners
  - Registered nurses and enrolled nurses, including nurse practitioners
  - midwives
  - pharmacists
  - allied health practitioners including physiotherapists
  - First Nations health practitioners and workers
  - paramedics
- Extensive stakeholder engagement and collaboration with the states and territories.
- Four consultation phases starting with the release of the Terms of Reference, the first call for public submissions and targeted stakeholder consultation.
- Three further consultation phases in 2024
- Final report to the Australian Government second half of 2024



# Primary Care Reform – Strengthening Medicare



## INCREASING ACCESS TO PRIMARY CARE

**Reform of MBS General Practice Attendance Items** - \$98.2 million over 5 years  
Higher rebates for consultations of 60 minutes or longer

**GP levels C and D phone consultations** - \$5.9 million over 5 years  
Longer GP telehealth consultations for MyMedicare registered patients

**General Practice in Aged Care Incentive** - \$112.0 million over 4 years  
Incentive payment for quality GP care for MyMedicare registered RACH residents

**Reform of general practice incentives program** - \$60.2 million in 2023-24  
Review and redesign of current incentive programs and 1 year extension of PIPQI

**Wraparound primary care for frequent hospital users** - \$98.9 million over 4 years  
Incentive payment for wraparound, tailored care for MyMedicare registered patients with complex chronic conditions

**Implementation of MyMedicare** - \$19.7 million over 4 years  
A new voluntary patient registration model to deliver continuity of care

**Supporting health, care and support services in thin markets** - \$47.2 million over 4 years  
This measure supports trials of market-strengthening approaches for care services in thin markets, and supporting intervention where primary care fails, or is unsustainable.

**Reducing disparity in access to primary care** - \$29.1 million over 2 years  
Funding for the Royal Flying Doctors Service to support remote communities

**Tripling of bulk billing incentives** - \$3.5 billion over 5 years  
Supports GPs to bulk bill Australians who feel cost of living pressures most acutely

**Improving First Nations cancer outcomes** - \$238.5 million over 4 years  
Builds capacity of ACCHSs to respond to and support cancer care needs on the ground

**Chronic Wound Consumable Scheme for patients with diabetes** - \$47.8 million over 5 years  
Eligible patients with a chronic wound and diabetes will have access to more affordable wound care

**Reformed opioid dependency treatment program through community pharmacy** - \$377.3 million over 4 years  
Local pharmacy support for Australians who need treatment for opioid dependency

**Expanding pharmacist scope of practice to deliver National Immunisation Program vaccines** - \$114.1 million over 5 years  
Pharmacists funded to administer NIP vaccines at no cost to patients

**Reform of after hours programs** - \$143.9 million over 2 years  
Review and redesign of primary care after hours programs and services

**Medicare Urgent Care Clinics - additional funding** - \$358.5 million over 5 years  
Funding for 8 additional Medicare UCCs, with 58 clinics funded to open their doors in 2023

**Lowering the Cost of Medicines through Changes to Maximum Dispensing Quantities** - Efficiency of \$1.2 billion over 5 years from 2022-23



## MODERNISING PRIMARY CARE

**General Practice Grant Program (Oct 2022-23 Budget)** - General practices and ACCHS will be supported to enhance digital health capability through grants for innovation, training, equipment and minor capital works

**Intergovernmental agreement on national digital health** - \$126.8 million over 4 years  
Renewed for four years to progress secure information sharing across health system

**Investing in a modernised My Health Record** - \$429.0 million over 2 years  
Improving accessibility and compatibility so patients can access and securely share data

**Securing the Australian Digital Health Agency to lead Digital Enablement of Healthcare** - \$325.7 million over 4 years  
ADHA to become ongoing entity to deliver important digital health infrastructure

**Strengthening electronic prescribing and targeted digital medicines enhancements** - \$111.8 million over 4 years  
Electronic prescription delivery infrastructure and services



## ENCOURAGING MULTIDISCIPLINARY TEAM-BASED CARE

**Single Employer Models for rural health professionals** - \$4.5 million over 5 years  
GP registrars in regional community practices retain employment benefits

**Improving patient care through MBS nurse practitioner services** - \$46.8 million over 4 years  
30% MBS rebate increase, PBS medicine prescription, removal of collaborative arrangements

**Education for the future primary care workforce** - \$31.6 million over 2 years  
Additional incentives and training programs to encourage nurses into the primary care workforce

**Expand the nursing workforce to improve access to primary care and scholarships for primary care nurses and midwives** - \$60.9 million over 4 years  
Scholarships and clinical placements to build the primary care nurse pipeline

**National scope of practice review (part of above measure)** - \$3.0 million over 2 years  
Review of barriers/incentives for all health professionals to work to full scope of practice

**Workforce Incentive Program to increase payments to support multidisciplinary team care** - \$445.1 million over 5 years  
Increased incentive payments and indexation for team-based multidisciplinary care

**Primary Health Network commissioning of multidisciplinary teams** - \$79.4 million over 4 years  
PHN commissioning of allied health and nurses in smaller and solo practices



## SUPPORTING CHANGE MANAGEMENT AND CULTURAL CHANGE

**Consumer Engagement in Primary Care Reform** - \$13.0 million over 4 years  
CHF and FECCA funded to drive consumer engagement in primary care reform

**National Consumer Engagement Strategy for Preventive Health (NCESPH)\*^**  
Capability and capacity will be built for policy-makers to engage consumers, and facilitates consumer engagement in health policy making and programs.

**Medical Research Future Fund Primary Care Research Grants\*^** Clinician researchers in primary care will be supported (to commence late 2023).

**Monitoring and evaluation** - \$6.1 million over 4 years  
Development of framework and support for an Implementation Oversight Committee



# Thank you!

For more information, please contact the Department of Health and Aged Care

[www.health.gov.au/health-topics/nurses-and-midwives](http://www.health.gov.au/health-topics/nurses-and-midwives)

