



Minister for Health and Aged Care
Minister for Sport
THE HON SUSSAN LEY MP
Media Release

Medical practices can apply for stage one of Health Care Homes

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The Minister for Health, Sussan Ley, today announced that medical practices in selected regions around Australia can apply for stage one of Health Care Homes.

In stage one, Health Care Homes will be rolled out in selected regions from July 2017.

Health Care Homes is a major reform of primary health care and aims to reshape the management of chronic and complex conditions by placing patients at the centre of care with general practice and Aboriginal community controlled health services (ACCHS).

The Turnbull Government has allocated over \$100m to support the rollout of stage one, which aims to enrol up to 65,000 patients in 200 medical practices in 10 regions across Australia.

Ms Ley said: "Health Care Homes aims to deliver more flexible care for people with chronic and complex conditions.

"This has never been more important with one in five Australians living with two or more chronic conditions.

"Health Care Homes allows for team-based, integrated and co-ordinated care for patients and gives greater flexibility to design individual care plans for patients and co-ordinate care services to support them."

Ms Ley said Health Care Homes is an important reform of primary health care services, which are the first and most common point of contact for most Australians.

It demonstrated the Turnbull Government's commitment to a healthier Medicare.

Ms Ley said: "We are implementing Health Care Homes to find a better way of delivering Medicare for Australians with chronic illnesses."

Last year the Government invested more than \$21 billion in Medicare to ensure all Australians had access to affordable universal healthcare and Medicare funding is expected to grow by another \$4 billion over four years.

Under the Health Care Home model, practices will be given a monthly bundled payment for delivery of effective care to patients with chronic and complex health conditions.

Ms Ley acknowledged that doctors and health professionals had played a key role in introducing the concept of the Health Care Home model.

Health Care Home services will be delivered in implementation sites from 1 July 2017 until 30 June 2019 in the first stage. Evaluation of Health Care Homes in these regions will inform refinement of the new model of care and its suitability for broader rollout.

Ms Ley said: “I encourage all accredited general practices and ACCHS organisations in the selected regions to apply to participate in the trials, which are held on a voluntary basis.”

General practices and ACCHS in these regions can now apply for stage one of Health Care Homes: Perth North; Northern Territory; Adelaide; Country South Australia; Brisbane North; Western Sydney; Nepean Blue Mountains; Hunter, New England and Central Coast; South Eastern Melbourne; and Tasmania.

More information on the application process is available on the Tenders and Grant page at www.health.gov.au

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