

20 April 2017

ONLINE TOOL PROMOTES CONSISTENT QUALITY CARE

A new web based information tool to support General Practitioners and other health care providers is being developed to better manage patients in South Australia.

In partnership, Adelaide Primary Health Network, Country SA Primary Health Network and SA Health will implement HealthPathways: a comprehensive, evidence based information, assessment, management and referral resource.

The online tool will ensure the consistent management of patients across the state. It will encourage the use of community based care options and improve the consistency and quality of referrals for people who may require specialist outpatient services.

This will ensure patients receive the right care, in the right place at the right time.

Background

Adelaide Primary Health Network and Country SA Primary Health Network will co-fund HealthPathways with SA Health for an initial three year period.

Each pathway will be co-developed by primary and acute health sector practitioners and will be localised to South Australia.

Health care providers will gain free access to HealthPathways via a community website.

The HealthPathways tool has been successfully implemented in health organisations across Australia and New Zealand.

Quotes attributable to Acting Chief Executive Officer SA Health Don Frater:

As demand for public hospital services continues to grow, implementing consistent statewide approaches to patient care and management is becoming increasingly important; to improve patient outcomes and relieve pressure on the hospital system.

The online tool offers assessment and diagnostic information on specific health conditions in an easy to use format, which will help to streamline the referral process for services.

This initiative will help us to continue to build stronger relationships between General Practitioners and public hospital clinicians, which will lead to improved patient care.

Quotes attributable to Chief Executive Officer Adelaide PHN Ms Deb Lee:

HealthPathways will provide General Practitioners with the ability to effectively manage patients with a variety of conditions in the community.

It will provide increased clarity for General Practitioners on the conditions that need to be referred to specialist outpatients and assurance that referrals made in line with HealthPathways criteria will be processed by public hospital outpatient clinics in a timely and efficient way.

Quotes attributable to Chief Executive Officer Country SA PHN Mr Kim Hosking:

The two Primary Health Networks in South Australia warmly welcome the joint resourcing and implementation of HealthPathways across South Australia.

Our Primary Health Care Providers, Acute Specialists and our communities will benefit from clear, easy to navigate referral pathways that will provide the right care, in the right place and the right time.

For more information,

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