



**WAPHA**  
WA Primary Health Alliance

**phn**  
PERTH NORTH

An Australian Government Initiative

# Media Release

## Perth North PHN selected as Health Care Home trial site

24 August 2016

WA Primary Health Alliance (WAPHA) welcomes the Commonwealth Government's announcement of Perth North Primary Health Network (PHN) to be a Health Care Home trial site.

The Health Care Home model involves patients nominating a preferred general practice and GP to coordinate their care and this is backed up by data sharing between providers and supporting technologies, such as My Health Record.

WAPHA, which operates Perth North PHN, supports the Health Care Home model which places patients with chronic and complex health conditions at the centre of care that is coordinated through their GP.

Perth North PHN general manager Bernadette Kenny said the PHN will work closely with the Commonwealth Department of Health throughout the trial development, implementation and evaluation phases.

"Our aim is to improve the health outcomes of enrolled patients, enhance the patient experience of care and improve the outcomes for health professionals involved in the trial," Ms Kenny said.

"The announcement reinforces the role of general practitioners in coordinating care for patients with chronic, co-occurring and complex health conditions and aims to deliver a sustainable healthcare system by treating patients in the community rather than hospital.

"The role of PHNs to support general practice by building capacity and capability to assist practices to transition to this model of care."

Ms Kenny said 35 per cent of Australians have a chronic or complex health condition and the Health Care Home trial, as part of the Government's Healthier Medicare reforms, would stand to positively impact the lives of many Western Australians.

The Health Care Home model, underpinned by the principles of the Patient Centred Medical Home, has been trialled successfully in the US and Canada.

The Government trial will involve 65,000 patients nationally, and up to 200 general practices from July 2017.

**ENDS**



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