



Media Release

WAPHA wins bid to establish PHNs

13 April 2015

WA Primary Health Alliance (WAPHA) is excited to announce it has been selected by the Federal Government to deliver three PHNs in WA.

The three PHNs in WA are Perth North, Perth South and Country WA. WAPHA is delighted to be chosen to implement and deliver all three PHNs.

The PHNs will start operating on July 1, 2015.

WAPHA chair Dr Richard Choong, the immediate past president of the Australian Medical Association (WA), said he believes the move to PHNs is a once in a generation opportunity to place primary care at the heart of WA's health system.

"PHNs will be the voice of primary health care and through sophisticated engagement with community and health professionals we will collectively identify health priorities of the population," Dr Choong said.

"Decisions informed by the community and health professionals will ultimately improve the patient journey and create a new system that wraps services around patients and clients."

"WAPHA is not interested in preserving the status guo. We know that effective commissioning will deliver better services and lead to improved health outcomes."

Dr Choong said GP and broader clinical engagement will be a priority of WAPHA.

"As a GP, I can see the clear alignment with WAPHA's commitment to support General Practice to achieve the highest standards in the delivery of care to the individual patient and the community at large," Dr Choong said.

"We will continue to engage with and listen to our communities so that we commission services that deliver the outcomes our communities want."

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WAPHA was established by over 20 organisations in October 2014, following months of planning and stakeholder engagement.

Its vision is for a sustainable, accessible and equitable primary health care system for all.

ENDS

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