



**WAPHA**  
WA Primary Health Alliance

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PERTH NORTH, PERTH SOUTH,  
COUNTRY WA  
An Australian Government Initiative

# Media Release

## **WAPHA welcomes Australian Diabetes Strategy 2016-2020**

20 November 2015

**WA Primary Health Alliance (WAPHA) welcomes the launch of the new Australian Diabetes Strategy 2016 – 2020 and commends the Federal Government’s national response to reducing the impact of diabetes in the community.**

WAPHA chief executive officer Learne Durrington said in WA diabetes and associated complications account for 30 per cent of all hospital admissions.

“There are 118,000 people diagnosed with diabetes every year, and 28 people in WA are diagnosed with diabetes every day – more than one every hour,” Ms Durrington said.

WAPHA operates all three Primary Health Networks (PHNs) in WA, which have been highlighted in the Australian Diabetes Strategy as playing an integral role transforming the way diabetes care is delivered in Australia.

The Strategy recommends a partnership model that incorporates primary care and community and specialist care services with direct consumer, carer and family involvement.

Consistent with the philosophy of PHNs, major factors underpinning the success of the strategy include an approach to care that is team based and proactive and recognises the importance of self-management in chronic disease.

The Strategy further outlines the role of PHNs in developing locally tailored pathways of care for people with diabetes and the development of complication prevention programs within each PHN region.

“The Australian Diabetes Strategy will enhance the work of WA’s PHNs in the area of diabetes care and will further inform our planning for efficient and long term chronic disease management,” Ms Durrington said.

“In planning and commissioning services and resources, WAPHA is already engaged in evidence based needs assessment research for Western Australians with diabetes. WAPHA endorses the priority given to this approach within the Strategy.”



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The National Diabetes Strategy is available on the [Department of Health](#) website.

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