



An Australian Government Initiative

Local and innovative National and integrated



Primary Health Networks deliver national primary health care reforms by creating tailored, local and innovative solutions for metropolitan, regional and rural and remote communities.

Across the breadth of Australia, PHNs commission and partner with service providers to deliver the right care to patients, where and when they need it.

Primary Health Networks work collaboratively to co-design evidence-based, practical solutions in partnership with service providers to deliver the Australian Government's vision to provide better access to health services and better health outcomes for everyone.

PHNs – your partners in better health.

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Local and innovative

The network of 31 Primary Health Networks co-designs and commissions sustainable solutions at scale while responding quickly to Australia's emerging health needs.

In the past 18 months, the PHNs have been integral to the success of the Commonwealth's response to serious health emergencies.

Our network has responded rapidly to emergencies and natural disasters, supporting and coordinating general practice and ensuring the continued delivery of primary health care in communities.

With the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in early 2020, we distributed personal protective equipment to general practices and supported the Department to establish more than 100 respiratory clinics in a matter of weeks to conduct rapid testing across the nation.

Our network has facilitated the Department's vaccination of aged care residents and we continue to work with the Government to help maximise the speed and efficiency of the national vaccination rollout at local level through residential care facilities, general practices and GP respiratory clinics.



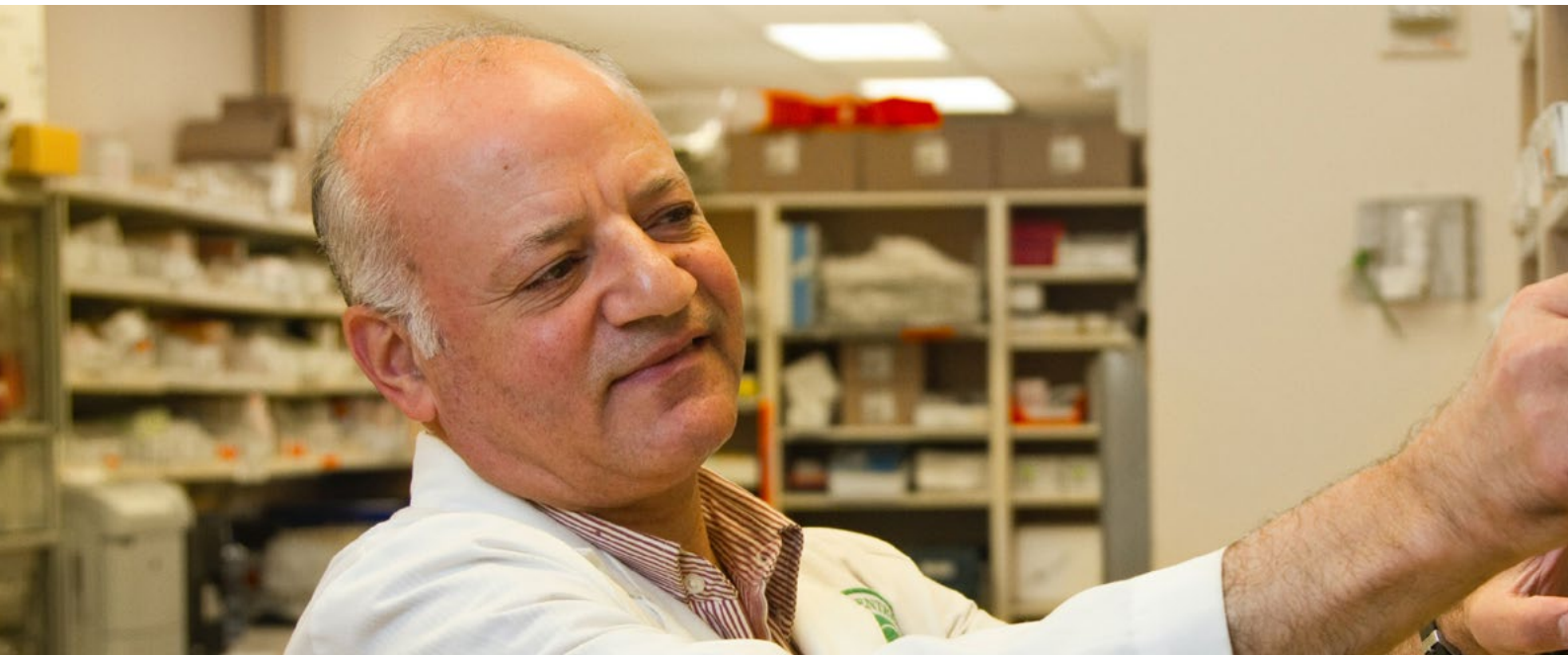
National and Integrated

We are trusted partners, ready to deliver the Australian Government's National Health Reform Agenda.

The hallmarks of PHNs include strong governance and operational excellence. The strength of our network lies in our ability to translate national policies into local solutions. We tailor services to the specific needs of metropolitan, regional and rural and remote communities and work in partnership with local providers. Our local knowledge also allows us to communicate on behalf of communities to inform Commonwealth health policy.

The PHNs are uniquely positioned to deliver the National Health Reform Agenda across:

- **Primary Care**
- **Mental Health**
- **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health**
- **Population health**
- **Health workforce**
- **Digital health**
- **Aged care**



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We are working to deliver the Commonwealth's health reform agenda

Primary Health Insights

Primary Health Insights is a national data storage and analytics system designed to host the deidentified primary care data of PHNs.

This innovative program brings together data governance, advanced analytics, a secure data platform and primary health informatics experts across the PHNs to manage the data collected by Australia's network of general practices.

The data set provides critical insights into the health of Australians and will be an invaluable tool to improve population health outcomes for all Australians.

HealthPathways

PHNs, as commissioners of integrated models of care, are uniquely placed to identify and address the needs and service gaps of a community. The integration of care can address these gaps, reduce duplication and fragmentation and enable the co-creation of a local health system that meets the needs of the community, providers and the health system as a whole.

We consult with expert clinicians to produce GP clinical decision support pathways for local regions, mapping care across the health system, joining up services at community and tertiary level.

By defining pathways we support the integration of care across multiple providers.

Across Australia we have created more than 24,000 localised pathways.

Every pathway is based on national clinical guides and tailored to Local Health Districts, Health Service Providers and Health Support Services.

The established pathways have been defined with direct feedback from:

- **3742 GPs**
- **3299 specialists**
- **2288 nurses**
- **1637 allied health professionals**

Every pathway reflects the local clinical community and availability of services, making it easier for patients to navigate the system and access the care they need.



Mental health

All 31 PHNs have developed and implemented regional mental health plans in conjunction with their Local Health Districts, Health Service Providers and Health Support Services partners.

These plans reflect key priorities from the Commonwealth's Fifth National Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Plan. They embed the integration of mental health and suicide prevention services for patients at risk of mental illness or suicide.

Aged care

Across Australia the 31 PHNs are engaged in more than 220 programs to support older people access aged care, health care and disability support services.

These programs are developed, commissioned, and delivered by a wide variety of partners.

They include:

- **specialist in-reach and outreach services**
- **programs that provide psychological services to residents of residential aged care facilities**
- **programs that support advance care planning, palliative and end-of-life care.**

Connecting Australians to quality health services

**Primary Health Networks -
Working to build a better
primary healthcare system for
all Australians**

Our roles:

- **Systems integration and coordination**
- **Regional commissioning**
- **Primary care stewardship and management**
- **Education, training and workforce development**
- **Healthcare innovation and reform**

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