

ALLIED HEALTH INDUSTRY REFERENCE GROUP
MEETING EIGHT: 5 SEPTEMBER 2023 SUMMARY OF OUTCOMES

The Allied Health Industry Reference Group (AHIRG) held its eighth meeting on 5 September 2023. This meeting was open to allied health professional associations.

The topics covered in the meeting included:

- Federal Budget Update
 - The department discussed initiatives that were announced at the recent 2023-24 Federal Budget that are of relevance to allied health. These items respond to the Strengthening Medicare Taskforce report, which was released earlier this year.
 - Budget initiatives discussed included:
 - The MyMedicare voluntary patient registration system, which commenced on 1 July 2023 for practice registration. By mid-2024, it is planned that any member of the primary care team in a general practice will be able to be link to the system.
 - Wraparound primary care for frequent hospital users, which aims to increase access to multidisciplinary care for people who frequently present at emergency departments.
 - A reform of general practice incentives programs, which will consider how to support more patient centred care through general practices.
 - Supporting residents in Residential Aged Care Homes by providing incentives to GPs to provide care planning and regular visits, and incentives to practices for arranging visits, providing access to multidisciplinary care teams and coordinating care.
 - Primary Health Networks multidisciplinary team commissioning to improve access to allied health professionals, Aboriginal Health Workers and Practitioners, nurses, nurse practitioners and midwives.
- An update on work to date regarding guidance for allied health professionals on delegating to, and supervision of, Allied Health Assistants.

NEXT STEPS:

1. The department will schedule an agenda item for the next meeting to provide an update on implementation of the National PHN Allied Health in Primary Care Engagement Framework.
2. Members will provide any comments in relation to delegation and supervision of Allied Health Assistants to caho@health.gov.au.