



# General Practice in Aged Care Incentive roles and contributions

Effective – August 2024

## General Practice in Aged Care Incentive

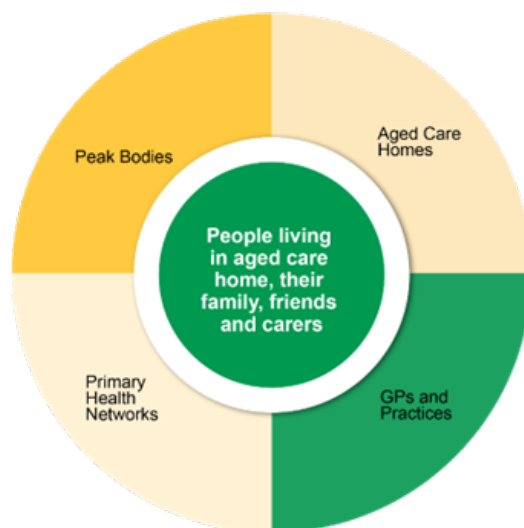
The Department of Health and Aged Care (the department) developed the General Practice in Aged Care Incentive in response to recommendations from the [Royal Commission into Safety and Quality in Aged Care](#) and [Strengthening Medicare](#) Taskforce to improve access to primary care and other health services.

The incentive aims to support general practitioners (GPs) and practices to deliver more proactive, planned, and continuous care to people living in residential aged care homes.

## Key groups involved in the General Practice in Aged Care Incentive

A number of key groups have important roles in supporting the implementation of the incentive. To support the delivery of high-quality care it is important that all groups work together well and contribute to their roles and responsibilities.

As part of the incentive, all groups have a shared purpose to ensure people who live in aged care homes have access to quality primary care and other health services.





## People at the centre of care

People who permanently live in residential aged care homes (not including those in respite care), their families and carers are at the centre of care. This includes people who are about to enter an aged care home.

Each permanent resident in an aged care home who has registered for [MyMedicare](#) and whose GP and practice participates in the incentive may benefit from the continuity of care, proactive and planned general practice care.

An aged care resident, their family and carer's role in the incentive is to:

- receive information about the incentive and understand its benefits and alternatives.
- make an informed choice and consent to voluntarily participate in MyMedicare.
- serve as partners in goal setting and care planning.
- receive the benefits of more proactive, planned, and continuous care.

## GPs, care teams and practices

GPs, care teams and practices participating in the General Practice in Aged Care Incentive are required to deliver a range of eligible services to an aged care resident.

To be eligible for incentive payments, GPs and practices must meet the eligibility requirements and deliver services in line with the General Practice in Aged Care Incentive servicing requirements. Information on these requirements outlined in the General Practice in Aged Care Incentive Program Guidelines: [health.gov.au/our-work/gpaci](http://health.gov.au/our-work/gpaci).

Nurse practitioners, GP registrars, practice nurses, and Aboriginal Health practitioners, or workers linked to the same registered practice, may deliver some of the required services in partnership with the GP, also known as the 'responsible provider'.

While not directly funded by the incentive, other health care providers such as geriatricians, pharmacists, allied health professionals including podiatrists and physiotherapists are among those with whom the responsible provider and practice staff may liaise, consult and coordinate care.

Practices will support GPs and the care team with this incentive by providing planning, coordination and administrative functions. Practices will also support the registration of aged care residents in MyMedicare and the General Practice in Aged Care Incentive. Information about MyMedicare and the General Practice in Aged Care Incentive is available for health professionals at [hpe.servicesaustralia.gov.au/mymedicare.html](http://hpe.servicesaustralia.gov.au/mymedicare.html).

## Residential aged care providers

While not directly funded by the incentive, aged care providers will benefit from the support of quality primary care and other health services and contribute to the objectives and intentions of the incentive.



Residential aged care homes can support the implementation of General Practice in Aged Care Incentive by:

- supporting their residents to be registered in MyMedicare
- supporting practices and general practitioners to deliver services to residents in aged care homes.

### **Primary Health Networks (PHNs)**

PHNs are regionally based, independent organisations funded by the department to commission, coordinate and build capability across primary health care services in their regions. This includes building connections and strengthening collaboration between GPs and practices and aged care homes.

PHNs support the implementation of MyMedicare and the General Practice in Aged Care Incentive. They play a critical role in:

- communicating with GPs and practices, promoting the incentive and encouraging uptake
- communicating with residential aged care homes, informing and equipping staff to promote the incentive and support clear communication to their residents and resident families
- supporting interested or participating GPs and practices to implement the incentive
- facilitating improved care processes between GPs and practices and aged care homes to ensure the provision of proactive, planned and continuous care.

### **National professional and consumer peak bodies**

While not directly funded by the incentive, peak bodies can support their members to participate in the General Practice in Aged Care Incentive.

## **Resources**

More support for the roles and contributions for each of these partners can be found at: [health.gov.au/our-work/gpaci](http://health.gov.au/our-work/gpaci).



## Key implementation partners

The table below provides illustrations of how implementation partners' roles relate to the General Practice in Aged Care Incentive.

	Person	GP and care team	Practice	Aged care home	PHN	Peak bodies
<b>Key roles in the General Practice in Aged Care Incentive</b>						
Support aged care residents, GPs and practices and aged care homes to understand the incentive					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Foster partnerships, facilitate collaboration and improvement in care processes between GPs and practices and aged care providers		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Gain and/or maintain accreditation			<input type="checkbox"/>			
Support aged care residents, families and carers to make an informed choice about registering with MyMedicare and participation in the incentive		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Make an informed choice to register with MyMedicare and select a preferred GP	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Make an informed choice to participate in services part-funded by the incentive	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Access MyMedicare and the linked General Practice in Aged Care Incentive via the Organisational Register		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Link eligible practitioners and their MyMedicare-registered patients to the practice and each other		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Provide required services in aged care homes as described in the incentive guidelines		<input type="checkbox"/>				
Support GPs and care team to deliver health services (e.g. liaison to arrange visits)			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

General Practice in Aged Care Incentive roles and contributions



	Person	GP and care team	Practice	Aged care home	PHN	Peak bodies
<b>Ways to collaboratively support the objectives and intentions of the incentive</b>						
Inform GP and aged care provider if there is a change in preferred practice, preferred GP or wish to withdraw from MyMedicare	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>			
Deliver care in accordance with accepted clinical guidance such as the RACGP Silver Book		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Respect the rights of the person and support them to contribute as partners in their care	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Develop systems that support quality primary care provision in a way that works for the practice			<input type="checkbox"/>			
Actively participate in communication about the incentive	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Provide information and support to aged care residents, their families and carers to help them understand and register for MyMedicare	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Promote the benefits of the incentive to aged care residents, their families and carers to assist them make an informed choice		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Provide up-to-date information to members (for example, promotion and discussion of the incentive and its benefits through existing networks, forums, meetings, newsletters and education forums)			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Align with other government initiatives and reforms to support the care of aged care residents				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	



## More information

- General Practice in Aged Care Incentive: [health.gov.au/our-work/gpaci](http://health.gov.au/our-work/gpaci)
- Department of Health and Aged Care: [health.gov.au](http://health.gov.au)
- Services Australia: [servicesaustralia.gov.au/general-practice-aged-care-incentive](http://servicesaustralia.gov.au/general-practice-aged-care-incentive)
- MyMedicare: [health.gov.au/our-work/mymedicare](http://health.gov.au/our-work/mymedicare)
- Your local general practice, Aboriginal Medical Service, or Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation. Health Direct is a helpful place to start when looking for a health service: [healthdirect.gov.au](http://healthdirect.gov.au)

Your local Primary Health Network: [health.gov.au/our-work/phn](http://health.gov.au/our-work/phn).



All information in this publication is correct as of August 2024.