



General Practice in Aged Care Incentive

What the incentive means for residential aged care providers and staff, as well as for residents, families and carers

Chair

- Mark Roddam, First Assistant Secretary, Primary Care Division

Presenters

- Clare Sullivan, Acting Assistant Secretary, Primary Care Quality and Design Branch
- Craig Gear, Chief Executive Officer, Older Persons Advocacy Network (OPAN)
- Dr Paresh Dawda, Director and Principal, Prestantia Health

Clare Sullivan

Acting Assistant Secretary

Primary Care Quality and Design Branch

General Practice in Aged Care Incentive

- Policy intent
- Incentive overview
- Benefits
- How to participate
- Resources



Policy intent



Royal
Commission
into Aged
Care Quality
and Safety

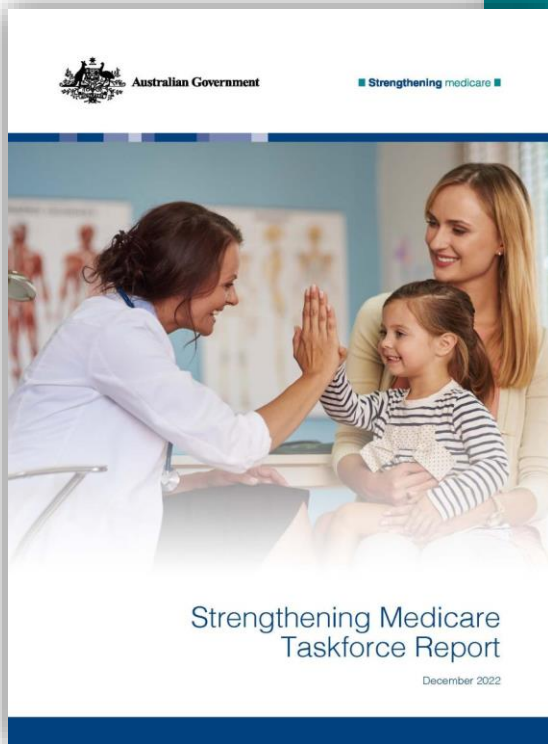
Final Report:
Care, Dignity
and Respect

Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality & Safety (March 2021)

- Found aged care home residents faced barriers in accessing timely and high-quality care from GPs
- Recommended a new model of primary care to encourage holistic, coordinated and proactive health care

Strengthening Medicare Taskforce Report (December 2022)

- Recommended introduction of blended funding models integrated with fee-for-service and incentives that better promote quality bundles of care for people who need it most



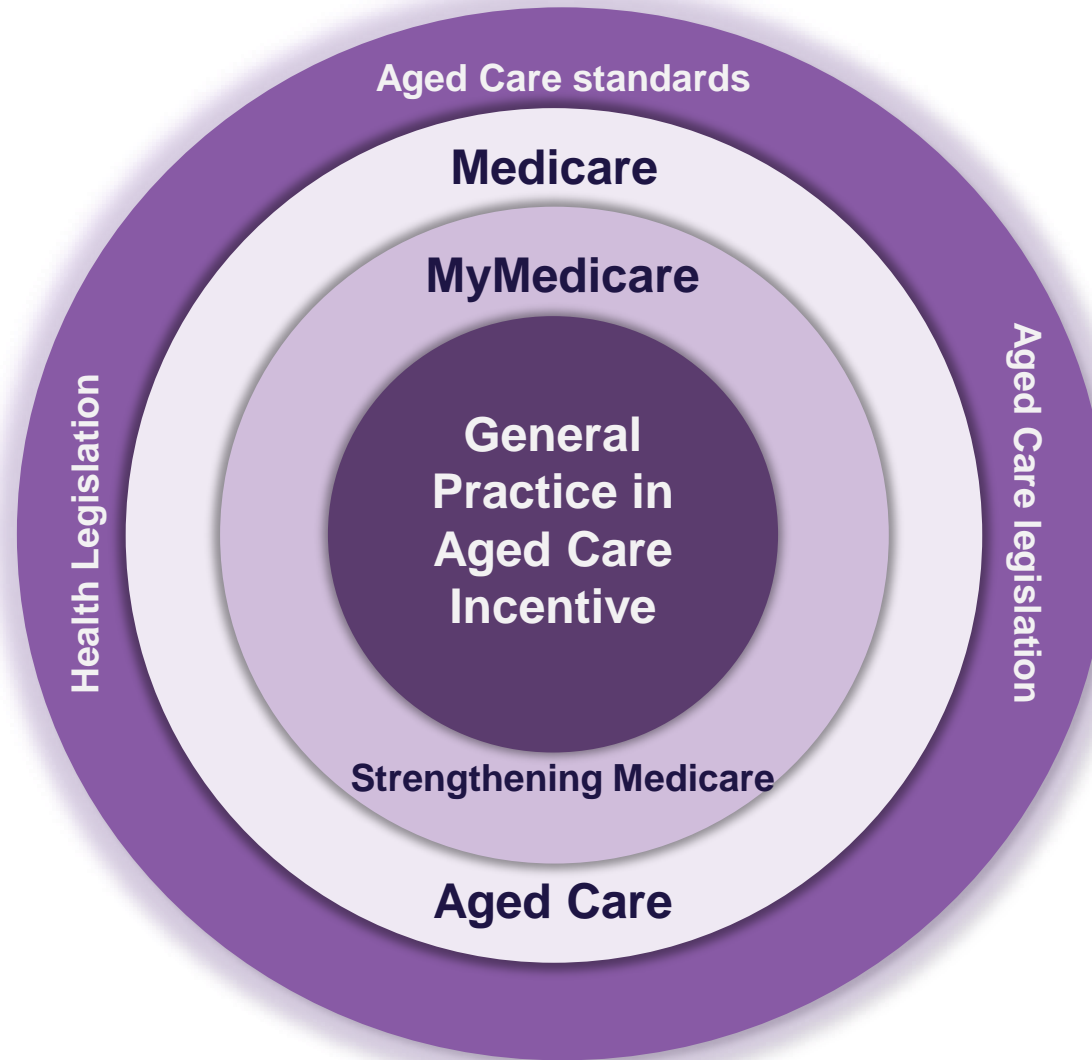
The aims of the incentive

Increase **access** to primary care for people living in residential age care homes

Support the delivery of **planned, proactive** and **regular care**



Policy environment



Who can participate?

Aged care residents

- Registered with MyMedicare
- Permanent resident of a residential aged care home, not including respite
- Linked with a GP and practice who have agreed to participate in the General Practice in Aged Care Incentive

General practitioners

- Registered with MyMedicare
- Eligible provider type, including sole practitioners
- Linked with an eligible practice
- Linked with an eligible resident as a responsible provider

Primary care practices

- Registered with MyMedicare
- Linked with an eligible GP
- Linked with an eligible resident as a responsible provider

Incentive overview

Under the General Practice in Aged Care Incentive, responsible providers* and practices must deliver at least **10 eligible services** comprising:



For delivering these services, the following incentive payments will be paid:

- \$300 per patient, per annum paid to the responsible provider*
- \$130 per patient, per annum paid to the practice

*Responsible providers are medical practitioners who hold an eligible speciality code and is responsible for coordinating the delivery of eligible services to the registered patient.

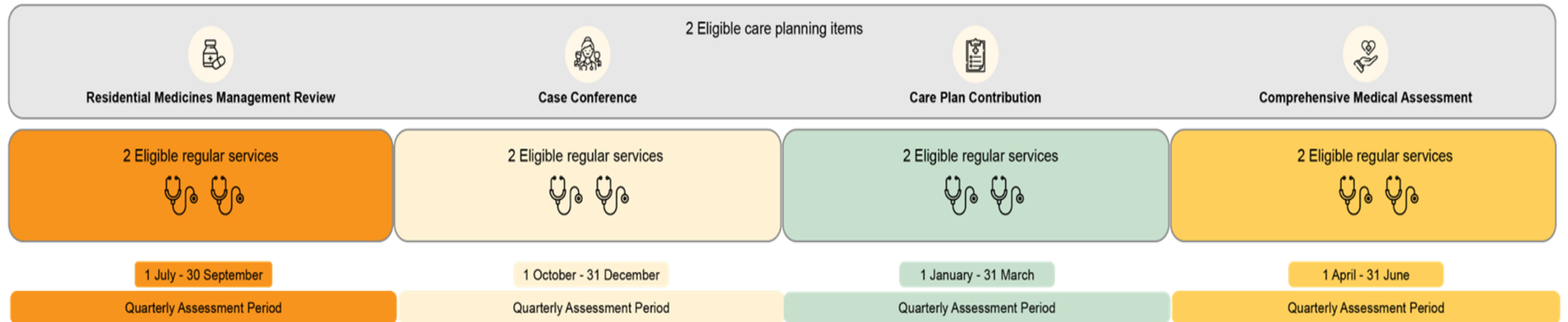
Incentive overview

8 regular visits



2 care planning items

Servicing requirements



*Responsible providers are medical practitioners who hold an eligible speciality code and is responsible for coordinating the delivery of eligible services to the registered patient.

Additional features

Care teams

- Up to one regular visit per quarter can be delivered by a member of the practice care team
- Care teams can include an:
 - alternative GP
 - GP registrar
 - nurse practitioner
 - practice nurse
 - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health practitioner or worker

Residents can expect to have **at least 6** face-to-face sessions with a member of the care team in the 12-month period

Telehealth

- In remote regions up to 4 regular visits may be delivered via telehealth
- These visits also include the visits by other members of the practice care teams mentioned above

Benefits – for residents, families and carers

- Greater access to primary care services delivered in aged care homes
- Greater access to care planning services, including health assessments and development of care plans
- Greater regularity of primary care services delivered to residents in aged care
- Formal establishment of relationships between patient, GP, practice and other healthcare professionals
- Improved health and wellbeing outcomes
- Fewer preventable hospitalisations, especially during after-hours periods

Registration process – summary



Resident registers for MyMedicare

Residents can sign up to MyMedicare online, via the mobile app or through a paper form



Practices register patients for the General Practice in Aged Care Incentive

Practices will register patients for the incentive through their system. Guidance for practices is available from Services Australia



GPs and their care team begin delivering eligible services

It is up to the practice and GPs if they wish to participate in the General Practice in Aged Care Incentive

MyMedicare registration – aged care residents

- Residents (families and carers) can sign up to MyMedicare
- Speak to the regular doctor to check if they and the clinic are taking part in MyMedicare
- The resident and the doctor's clinic both need to agree before the resident can sign up



Online

- Services Australia website
- Use a Medicare card to sign up online
- Link Medicare to MyGov account



Mobile app

- Express Plus Medicare mobile app
- Download the app and log in
- Use a Medicare card to sign up using the mobile app
- Link Medicare to MyGov account



Paper form

- Fill in the form
- Hand the completed form to the GP or practice staff attending the aged care home

MyMedicare registration – ‘About you’

- The ‘About you’ section collects information to help understand how people access health services
 - This is **voluntary**
 - Residents can still sign up even if they choose not to complete these questions
- If the resident has already signed up, they do not need to sign up again
 - If unsure, residents should speak to their doctor, or practice staff to check if they have signed up

Registering for the incentive

- Practices are responsible for registering their patients for the incentive
- Once registered in MyMedicare, a resident does not have to do anything further to participate
- Practices will register patients for the incentive through Health Professional Online Service (HPOS). Guidance for practices is available from Services Australia
- It is up to the practice and GPs if they wish to participate in the General Practice in Aged Care Incentive

Craig Gear

Chief Executive Officer

Older Persons Advocacy Network (OPAN)

What residents, families and carers need to know

- Registering in MyMedicare on behalf of someone
- Changing doctors
- Receiving expected services



Video



Dr Paresh Dawda

Director and Principal

Prestantia Health

Benefits – residential aged care providers

- Knowing that residents are getting regular and coordinated primary health care
- Assurance that care plans will be reviewed as needs change
- The opportunity for more residents to have a regular GP
- Feeling supported as part of the extended healthcare team
- Support in meeting Aged Care Quality Standards by ensuring residents can access safe and effective clinical care



How can providers support residents?

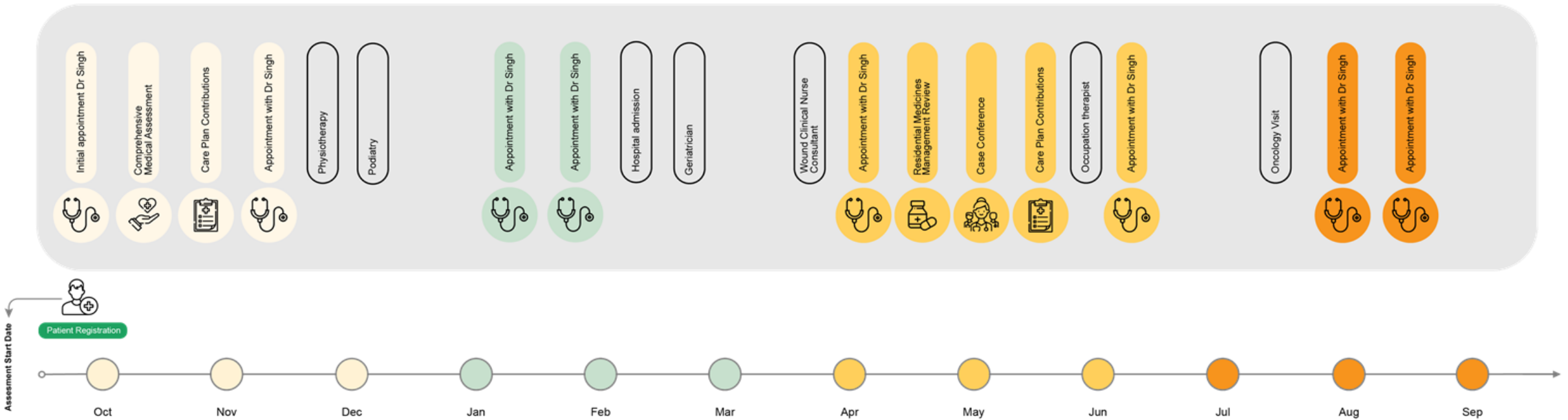
Understand the incentive, its benefits and roles

Provide information for residents, and their families and carers

Supporting practices and general practitioners to deliver services to residents in aged care homes



Example: Bernie's story



Support from Primary Health Networks

Collaborate and engage with aged care home providers, GPs and general practices and Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Service (ACCHS)

Support relationships between residential aged care homes and primary care

Support practices to sign up residents to use MyMedicare

Identify and share examples of best practice with providers

Resources and tools

Aged care residents information booklet

An overview of the General Practice in Aged Care Incentive for residents, their families and carers

Aged care provider information kit

Information kit to support residential aged care providers in the implementation of the General Practice in Aged Care Incentive

Includes resources to communicate to residents and staff about the incentive

Aged care experts and peaks information kit

Information kit for aged care peak bodies and older Australian advocacy organisations to support their members in the implementation of the General Practice in Aged Care Incentive

Includes resources to communicate with members about the incentive

Contact & further information

Support with signing up to MyMedicare

- If you want support to sign up to MyMedicare, you can call Services Australia **132 011**
- If you want support from the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA), you can call **1800 838 372**

Other enquiries

- For other enquiries about MyMedicare and the General Practice in Aged Care Incentive, you can send us an email mymedicare@health.gov.au

Information online

- You can visit our website: www.health.gov.au/mymedicare
- You can find out more on the Services Australia website: www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/register-for-mymedicare?context=22751#a3

Questions

Webinar survey



Please scan the QR code with your phone to respond to a short webinar survey