



Australian Government
Department of Health,
Disability and Ageing

Discover a rewarding career in primary health care



What is primary health care?

Primary health care is the first point of contact for health care outside of hospitals or specialist medical doctors. Professionals in this field diagnose and treat health conditions and offer long-term care to their patients.

Common careers include general practitioners (GPs), nurses, midwives and allied health professionals such as psychologists and physiotherapists.

Primary health care offers diverse opportunities for both local and overseas-qualified health care professionals. Its holistic nature allows you to make a meaningful and lasting impact on peoples' lives and the broader community.

Who are primary health care workers?

Primary health care workers are trusted professionals who provide essential health care and advice. They have a vital role in supporting the community's health and wellbeing, helping to reduce pressure on our hospitals.

Why choose a career in primary health care?

1. Personal fulfillment

There are plenty of career opportunities in diverse fields such as allied health, general practice (GP), nursing, and so many more. You'll have the freedom to provide treatment and deliver services and education tailored to each individual. And, in primary health care, no two days are the same.

2. Hard to match flexibility

Work in diverse settings, from metropolitan to regional and remote areas across Australia. You can expect to enjoy a better work-life balance, with the option to stay closer to home. You can also explore a variety of roles, making it an exciting and rewarding career path.

3. Impactful contributions

Every interaction is an opportunity to make a meaningful impact, all along the health journey from diagnosis to recovery. Primary health care workers are essential to community health care. They are trusted and highly valued professionals who are respected for their unique skills.

4. Career growth and innovation

You'll have the chance to work in multidisciplinary teams, with endless opportunities to learn, explore new and innovative health care practices, and emerging technologies. Primary health care can also offer the potential to start your own business and be your own boss.

5. Overseas qualifications

If you have overseas health care qualifications, primary health care offers a range of career opportunities. Make a difference in health care by having your overseas qualification recognised in Australia. For [international medical graduates](#), find out if you are eligible to work in Australia. Support and education for [overseas qualified nurses and midwives](#) is also available.

By joining the primary health care sector, you'll support communities through preventative, person-centred and holistic care, making a lasting impact on community health.



**Explore what you can be at
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**Scan the QR code to watch stories of real
primary health care community heroes.**



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