



# FACT SHEET

# CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

## NATIONAL HEALTH PLAN

## Primary Care – Boosting Workforce and Infection Control Training

The Australian Government is boosting the health workforce and providing up-to-date infection control training to health, aged care and broader care workforce.

### Infection Control Training

The Government will provide up-to-date infection control training to health workforce to help prevent the rapid spread of COVID-19, particularly amongst the most vulnerable Australians.

This training will include four key elements:

- Training delivered to the primary care respiratory clinics, focusing on infection control procedures, fitting protective personal equipment (PPE), and cleaning rooms and equipment.
- Video-based online training developed for GPs, practice nurses and allied health workers to help ensure patients presenting at their usual health clinic are protected from risk of infection and any cases of COVID-19 are quickly identified and appropriately managed.
- Training for nurses, other aged care workers, cleaners, catering and front-office staff working in residential aged care facilities, has been included in COVID-19 Aged Care Preparedness (see fact sheet).
- Training for in-home aged care workers, disability, childcare and other care workers, and home medication delivery workers.

### Additional Capacity

Health workforce will be boosted by health professionals not fully utilised, including doctors who only work after hours, students working restricted hours and other registered health professionals currently not practicing.

The Department of Health will also work with medical and nursing boards to prioritise return to the workforce for health workers not currently practicing, while ensuring public safety.

The additional workforce will work in respiratory clinics and aged care facilities.

### Who benefits?

All Australians will benefit from the management of exposure and risk of COVID-19 infection and treatment. GPs, health, aged care, disability and childcare workers will benefit from a bolstered workforce and training.

### How much will this cost?

This measure will cost \$30 million to 2021.