



Supporting our Hospitals – National Hospitals Agreement

The new 2020–25 National Health Reform Agreement provides public hospitals across the country with a record \$133.6 billion in funding over five years. This delivers an increase of \$33.6 billion compared with the previous five years.

Why is this important?

This commitment ensures the Australian health system remains stable and nationally coordinated, particularly during this unprecedented time.

It will deliver more doctors, more nurses and more services across public hospitals in every state and territory.

This guarantee is critical to ensuring state and territory governments can continue to deliver safe and effective public hospital services for all Australians, especially as all Australian governments respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The new agreement also includes a commitment by all Australian governments to a shared long-term vision for health reform, at a time when shared investment and coordination in health has never been more important.

Who will benefit?

Under this agreement, lifesaving, high-cost and innovative therapies, such as immunotherapy, will be available to treat serious blood and bone cancers – free of charge. The Australian Government and states have agreed to jointly fund this cancer treatment.

States are also funded to deliver more flexible care, including hospital care in the home, to give patients care where and when they need it. This will include rehabilitation in the home after a stroke. This provides better long term outcomes for patients.

New funding arrangements under the agreement mean people with some of the rarest conditions will have better access to new innovative life-saving high-cost therapies in public hospitals around the country.

Importantly, the agreement strengthens all governments' commitment to ensuring equitable access to public hospitals for all Australians by removing incentives that can lead to the preferential treatment of private patients in public hospitals.

How much will this cost?

The new Agreement provides an estimated \$133.6 billion in funding to public hospitals over five years from 2020–21. This is equivalent to an additional \$33.6 billion compared with the previous five years.