

The Diabetes Care Project

Invitation to Allied Health Professionals

We are developing better and more flexible ways to care for and support people with diabetes, **and we would like you to be part of it.**

What is the Diabetes Care Project?

The Diabetes Care Project (DCP) is a three-year pilot that is part of the Australian Government's response to the growing incidence of chronic disease in Australia. The pilot will test new ways of providing more flexible, better coordinated care, with the aim of improving the management of care for people with diabetes.

The project is piloting four key changes in how care is delivered to people with diabetes:

- A **new chronic disease management IT tool (cdmNet)** will support care planning, enable information sharing, and reduce administration through a secure online portal
- A **new funding model** will provide more funding for people with diabetes who have greater needs—this will mean more visits with allied health professionals
- A new role, called a **Care Facilitator**, will be created and funded to collaborate with the care team to support patient care
- An **education and training program** will support practitioners and people with diabetes to increase their understanding of diabetes management

Previous research suggests that integrated care will result in improved patient outcomes and greater provider satisfaction.

Who has been involved in designing this pilot?

More than 100 diabetes related Australian healthcare professionals (including representatives of the Allied Health Professions Australia and Australian Diabetes Educators Association), experts and consumers have been consulted throughout the development stage.

Who is involved in the pilot, and when does it start?

Over 4,000 allied health professionals are invited to participate. 150 General Practices and over 10,000 patients across three states will be participating.

Enrolment starts in early 2012, with the pilot running for up to 2½ years.

South Australia • Queensland • Victoria



Be part of shaping the future of diabetes care management in Australia

What changes will happen to how you provide care?

There will be three groups involved in the project so that the outcomes can be robustly evaluated. A patient from any one of these groups may see you as part of their care during the pilot.

Control Group—Participants will have no change to their care, and for these patients nothing will change for you.

Intervention Group 1—Participants will receive access to the IT tool online, as well as education and training. For these patients, you can use the IT tool to better integrate with the rest of the care team. The IT tool will also enable greater visibility of patient health records and care history.

Intervention Group 2—Participants will receive access to the IT tool, education and training, a new funding model and support from a Care Facilitator who will enable a more effective multidisciplinary team. A much greater variety of the type of subsidised AHP interactions will be available to patients in this group.

Why should you get involved?¹

- You will **spend less time on administration** through the introduction of a new online IT tool (cdmNet). This tool has a single health record for each patient and eliminates the need for faxing, meaning no more duplication of health histories
- You will **become a more integrated member of the care team**, with increased opportunity to influence a patient's care plan—enabled by the IT tool and the introduction of a Care Facilitator role to support the care team
- You will **have more flexibility to provide the length and type of subsidised interaction your patient needs**, including funding for phone consults, longer consults and case conferences
- You will **have access to diabetes-related education** including online training modules, quarterly clinical forums and phone based mentoring from diabetes specialists

Participating patients are expected to have access to more flexible care with a more coordinated care team.

¹ Note that the exact details depend on which pilot group a patient is participating in—see inside this pamphlet for more information on how the pilot is designed.

To ensure that you can have visibility of planned appointments and access to payment for completed appointments with patients in the project, it is very important that you register with the IT tool cdmNet.

How to register:

If you are a registered Medicare provider, have internet access and would like to participate:

1. Go to the website www.precedencehealthcare.com/allied-health/
2. Register to use cdmNet (free of charge for allied health professionals) by clicking on "Register for cdmNet"
3. Enter your contact details and specialties so that GPs can find you and request your services for their patients

