

# GP Plus Centres and Super Clinics – Links with Primary Health Care Research

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PHCRED Forum

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**Government  
of South Australia**

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SA Health

# Challenges Ahead for SA Health

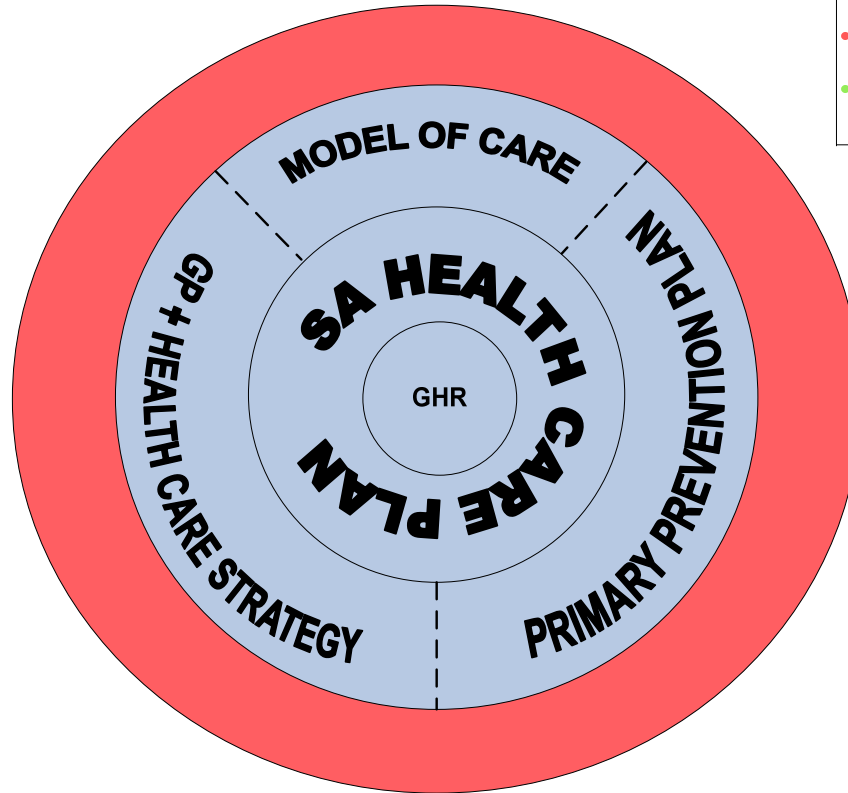
- > Changing demographics
  - Ageing population
  - Prevalence of chronic disease
- > Increasing demand
  - Community expectations
  - Technological improvements
- > Workforce shortages
  - Ageing of the workforce
  - Decreasing numbers entering the workforce
- > Increasing cost

# SA Health Care Plan

- > Launched by the Premier and Minister for Health in June 2007
- > Sets the framework for
  - Service redistribution
  - Demand management
  - Clinical engagement
  - Workforce development
  - Infrastructure investment

The Reform Agenda-How it All Fits Together

- Approach
- Content
- Enablers



# Super Clinics & GP Plus Health Care Centres?????

- > New way of working
- > Greater services available in the community to meet local needs
- > Multi Disciplinary
- > Extended hours
- > Improved patient outcomes
- > 3 Super Clinics
- > 4 GP Plus Health care Centres metro & 2 Country

# Opportunities for Partnerships with the Research Community

- > Establishment of the South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute (SAHMRI) – SA in strong position in health and medical research into the future
- > Significant investment in reform, need to demonstrate the impact and outcomes
- > Strong links with the Universities within South
- > Potential for further partnership arrangements that create capacity or centers of excellence

# Population Based Service Planning

- > Health Improvement Plans:
  - Population health and evidence-based approach to the planning, management and evaluation of service delivery
  - Meet priority population health needs
  - Guide the location of future GP Plus Health Care Centres and services

# Workforce Reforms

- > Workforce meets the challenges of the health reforms
- > Opportunities exist for:
  - competencies and skill sets for new types of roles
  - support and training in the future
  - Evaluating the effectiveness of new roles to support best practice care

# Health Literacy

- > Empowering clients – more than just providing information
- > Opportunities for future work:
  - How patients interpret information
  - The level of health literacy required to form a good partnership between clinician and patient
  - Identifying and evaluating the most effective approach to maximise health outcome
  - Understanding health literacy levels of different population groups & changes over time
  - Identifying the cost of low health literacy

# Measuring the Impact of Service Reforms

## > Clinically

- Consumer

- Quality

- Health

## > Economically

- Return on investment

# Challenges for Partnerships with the Research Community

- > Differing priorities for research community and health system
- > Council of Australian Government agendas require rapid deployment
- > Pace of health system decision making does not always enable research input or limits research and evaluation opportunities

# Challenges for Partnerships with the Research Community cont'd

- > A shortage of health economists limits areas where immediate input could contribute to decision making
- > Building health economic capacity in both health and university sectors – a long term investment
- > Need to consider alternative methodologies such as
  - rapid reviews
  - action research models
  - changes to the timing and content of interim reporting



On July 1st 2007 it will become illegal to smoke indoors in public buildings in England

Continuous improvement is better than  
delayed perfection. – (Mark Twain)



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SA Health