



ahha

australian healthcare &
hospitals association

Annual Report 2022-23

*The Australian Healthcare and
Hospitals Association*



The Australian Healthcare and Hospitals Association (AHHA) is Australia's national peak body for public and not-for-profit hospitals and healthcare providers.

Our vision is for a healthy Australia supported by the best possible healthcare system.

Our membership includes state health departments, Local Hospital Networks and public hospitals, community health services, Primary Health Networks and primary healthcare providers, aged care providers, universities, individual health professionals and academics. As such, we are uniquely placed to be an independent, national advocate for universal high-quality healthcare to benefit the Australian community.

Founded as the Australian Hospital Association in 1946, the AHHA has become a perennial fixture in the national health conversation, maintaining its vision for an effective, innovative and sustainable health system where all Australians have equitable access to healthcare of the highest standard when and where they need it.

AHHA acknowledges the Ngunnawal people as the traditional custodians of the land where we are located, and on which we conduct our business activities.



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THE HON. JILLIAN SKINNER,
CHAIR, AHHA BOARD

At AHHA, we recognise that it is the leaders across health services and stakeholders, our members, who will drive the collective action across the healthcare system for the necessary reform that improves the health and wellbeing of Australians.

Yet, without the right incentives, health systems will naturally gravitate towards more specialised, hospital-centric care. This shift toward hospital-centric approaches can undermine the ability of health systems to provide universal, equitable, high-quality, culturally sensitive and financially sustainable care.

To effectively address the current unsustainable demands on our hospitals, we will need to pivot from the siloed investment approaches that occur in vertical and priority programs, to investing in the 'upstream' social, economic, cultural, commercial, and environmental factors that contribute to health. Also known as the determinants of health.

The health system has a critical role to play in shifting the care focus upstream and addressing the determinants of health, but change can't be achieved unless it occurs in partnership with other systems, such as the legal, education and social systems.

With this change comes an obligation to address inequity and achieve access to safe, high-quality care through:

- Ensuring resources are distributed between areas in proportion to relative needs.
- Responding appropriately to the needs of different population groups, and
- Leading a strategic approach to the development of public policies at both national and local levels to improve the health of disadvantaged communities.

Globally, health systems are shifting towards value-based health care (VBHC) as a framework for bringing stakeholders together around a shared goal of improving health outcomes, sustainably and equitably. In Australia, AHHA is committed to enabling VBHC implementation across our partnerships, ensuring the longevity and resilience of the health system, and the people and communities it serves.



MS KYLIE WOOLCOCK,
CHIEF EXECUTIVE, AHHA

AHHA's engagement across the health system is driven by a vision for the best possible healthcare system that supports a healthy Australia.

It's a broad remit.

While a change in federal government in 2022 brought with it a new strategy for Australia and an enthusiasm for policy reform, we at AHHA were also embarking on our own strategic planning.

Facilitating strategic planning is something we support many of our members and other health organisations with as part of our consultancy work; from environmental scans and contextual analyses; through to stakeholder consultation that stimulates and challenges thinking; to drafting plans where ensuring operational buy in and sustainability are embedded in our ways of working.

Fundamental to our strategic planning approach is clearly defining what constitutes success, while recognising that the ongoing process for executing strategic development requires engagement and commitment from the Board, the workforce and stakeholders. Our process prioritised achieving and embedding clarity about our purpose and the 'way we work' across our organisation and with our members.

Through this time of significant reform potential, our activity has focused on setting the foundations that:

- Improve accessibility to health services research, including as the system responded to the pandemic by continuing to make COVID-19 related articles open access.
- Engage health service providers and practitioners in discussions on how the system can enable services to shift to deliver value, rather than volume, thus ensuring the best outcomes for people and communities, as well as the financial and environmental sustainability of the system.
- Promote public policy development that incentivises value over volume, including through governance, data and performance information, workforce development and funding.

In the past year, policies reforms have been announced that have the potential to have significant influence in our system. For example, connecting care and shifting care upstream have long been challenges, not only for our health system, but health systems around the world. Government announcements of interoperability plans and policy that will enable patient registration and team-based primary care have the potential to address these challenges.

Realising the potential of reforms will be dependent on government listening to those responsible for health care delivery and stewardship, our members, throughout the implementation process. AHHA is known as the voice of public health, but it is the insights and expertise of our members who give utility and credibility to that voice.

As we reflect on the activities of the past year in our Annual Report, we are excited to continue to work with and support our members in supporting a healthy Australia.

Governance

BOARD AND COUNCIL

AHHA full members form the AHHA Council and elect its Board. The Board met seven times in 2022-23, meeting the AHHA Constitution requirements.

AHHA Board members during 2022-23:

The Hon Jillian Skinner

Chair

Dr Michael Brydon

Member

Ms Lynelle Hales

Member

Ms Christine Kane

Member

(completed their term at the October 2022 AGM)

Ms Yasmin King

Member

Dr Keith McDonald

Member

(completed their term at the October 2022 AGM)

Ms Susan McKee

Member

Professor Wendy Moyle

Member

Dr Kim Webber

Member

(commenced at the October 2022 AGM)

Mr Michael Culhane

Member

(commenced at the October 2022 AGM)

A/Prof Anthony Schembri AM

Member

(commenced at the October 2022 AGM)

AUDIT, FINANCE AND RISK COMMITTEE

Members of the Audit, Finance and Risk Committee (AFRC) during 2022-23:

- The Hon. Jillian Skinner
- Ms Yasmin King - Chair, AFRC
- Ms Cassandra Bennett - independent (1980 - 2023)
- Dr Michael Brydon
- Ms Lynelle Hales
- Ms Susan McKee

This Committee met four times during the year, reporting to the AHHA Board after each meeting.

Audited financial statements are available to members on request.



Our members

Our members are made up of a diverse range of organisations encompassing primary and community care, acute care, peak bodies and health and education organisations. Personal and supporter members also uphold AHHA's vision for the best possible healthcare system for a healthy Australia.

The AHHA represents its members on a range of national committees, working groups, associations and alliances as well as two international bodies.

This enables AHHA to advocate on behalf of its

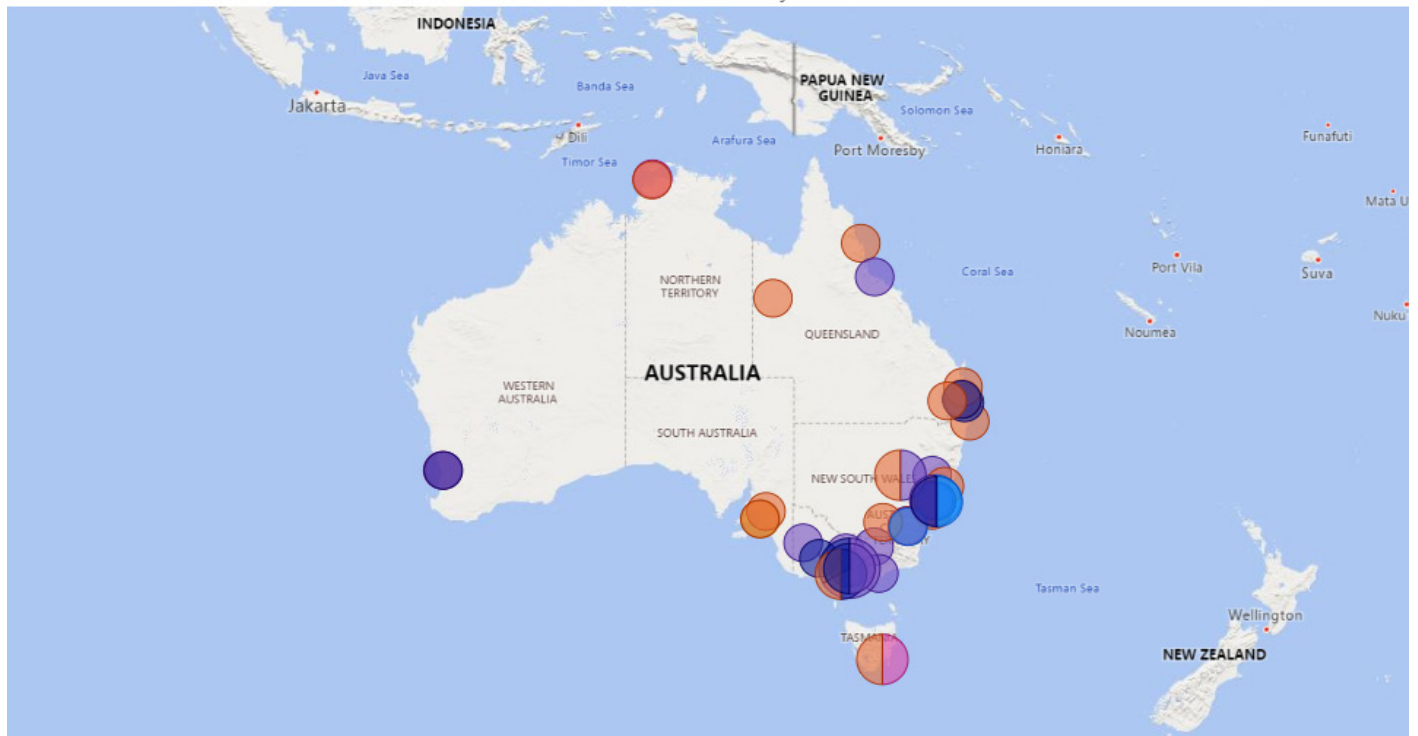
members to influence healthcare policy and service delivery across Australia.

Board and Council members are consulted regularly on appropriate input, and summaries of meeting outcomes are communicated to members using regular communications channels such as the Chief Executive's weekly emails to Council members.

For a complete list of committees, working groups, associations and alliances, visit: www.ahha.asn.au/representation.

MAPPING OUR MEMBERS

● Education ● Government ● Health Service Provider ● LHN ● Peak Body ● PHN



Media and communications

AHHA connects with members, stakeholders, governments and the wider community on key issues affecting the state of public health care in Australia.

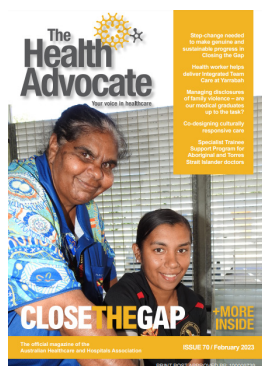
Our magazine, The Health Advocate, celebrates member stories in public healthcare, and contains the thoughts and opinions of Australia's leading health service managers, academics and clinicians.

The Health Advocate issues in 2022-23 explored topics including implementing health policy research, sustainability in the health sector, digital health care

and closing the health equity gap for First Nations Australians.

AHHA also provides a weekly CEO update to our council members, and an email healthcare news bulletin, Healthcare in Brief, that goes out to over 5,000 subscribers each week.

In addition to these publications, our peer-reviewed journal, the Australian Health Review, explores health policy and management including health care delivery systems, clinical programs and health financing. The Australian Health Review published six issues in 2022-23.



OUR YEAR IN NUMBERS



Publications

4 issues of The Health Advocate
6 issues of the Australian Health Review



Media releases

21 media releases sent



AHHA website

145,308 page views
78,596 total sessions
60,382 users



Email newsletters

50 issues of Healthcare in Brief
51 weekly updates to AHHA Board members and National Council.

AHHA news highlights

KYLIE WOOLCOCK APPOINTED AHHA CHIEF EXECUTIVE

In June 2022, the Australian Healthcare and Hospitals Association was delighted to announce the appointment of Ms Kylie Woolcock as Chief Executive. AHHA Board Chair, the Hon Jillian Skinner, said Kylie's appointment follows on from a busy six months acting in the role.

'Kylie is an outstanding choice, bringing a wealth of policy and advocacy experience to the role; as well as an extensive understanding in the for-purpose sector.'

'Ms Woolcock has worked in the health sector for over 20 years, and has spent the past few months connecting with our membership, key stakeholders in government and our partners to understand their priorities in health system reform.'

'She has also supported the dedicated team in our Canberra office as they emerge from COVID lock downs, bringing a fresh approach to operations that ensure a strong focus on member needs, efficiencies to meet member expectations and clear lines of accountability within the organisation.'

A VISION FOR MEDICARE BUT NOT A QUICK FIX

AHHA welcomed the release of the Strengthening Medicare Taskforce Report, while recognising it will be the details that matter.

Our members and stakeholders across the health system have long been calling for a commitment to reorient the system towards one that is person-centred, outcomes-focused and value-based. This report identifies those critical enablers that will align diverse stakeholders around a shared vision.



2022 SIDNEY SAX MEDAL RECIPIENT PROFESSOR SUE KURRLE

The 2022 Sidney Sax medal for outstanding contributions to the development and improvement of Australia's healthcare system was awarded to Geriatrician Professor Susan Kurrle, Curran Professor in Health Care of Older People at the Faculty of Medicine and Health, University of Sydney.

Professor Kurrle is a practicing geriatrician for the Northern Sydney Local Health District (NSLHD), specialising in the areas of dementia, frailty, elder abuse, successful ageing, and intergenerational care.

In addition to her work at NSLHD, Professor Kurrle is the expert geriatrician leading the work on the internationally award-winning ABC TV documentary series 'Old People's Home for 4 Year Olds'.

This series showcased the benefits that intergenerational care programs can have, and their ability to promote participation and social connectedness, increasing happiness, dignity, and self-esteem for all participants.

'Professor Kurrle's work on the many aspects of care for older people, is an area in need of champions who take a holistic approach to their health and well-being,' said AHHA Board Chair, the Hon Jillian Skinner.



AHHA news highlights

STRONGER, MORE STRATEGIC VOICE FOR VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING FOR HEALTH

The Australian Healthcare and Hospitals Association (AHHA) welcomed the announcement from the Federal Minister for Skills and Training, The Hon Brendan O'Connor MP, on the establishment of the Jobs and Skills Council. The Council leading and driving the performance of the national Vocational Education and Training (VET) system for the health and human services, early education and sport and recreation sectors, known as HumanAbility.

AHHA was announced as the successful lead applicant on a consortium that will establish HumanAbility.

This Jobs and Skills Council creates a genuine and collaborative tripartite membership reaching across organisations of all sizes and types, where we can draw on strategic workforce, educational and learner perspectives.

HumanAbility recognises the commonality of skills and workforce challenges facing the health and human services, early education and sport and recreation sectors. All are focused on the wellbeing of individuals and communities.

PLANNING FOR SCALABLE VALUE-BASED PAYMENTS IN AUSTRALIAN HEALTH CARE

Released by the Deeble Institute for Health Policy Research, the Issues Brief '[A roadmap towards scalable value-based payments in Australian health care](#)' examines the challenges and advantages of moving ahead with a health funding model that includes value-based payments.

The Brief was authored by Professor Henry Cutler, Inaugural Deeble Institute Fellow and Inaugural Director, Macquarie University Centre for Health Economics (MUCHE), Macquarie University.

DEEBLE FELLOWSHIP TO EXAMINE VOLUNTARY PATIENT REGISTRATION REFORMS AND EQUITABLE ACCESS TO CARE



The 2023 Deeble Institute Fellowship was awarded to Associate Professor Reema Harrison, Lead Healthcare Engagement and Workplace Behaviour, Australian Institute of Health Innovation, Macquarie University.

Named in honour of Professor John Deeble AO (1931-2018), health economist, co-architect of Medicare, founding director of the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, and namesake of the Deeble Institute for Health Policy Research (AHHA); the Fellowship has been awarded to an outstanding mid-career researcher whose research commitment reflects Professor Deeble's legacy of universal healthcare through affordable, quality healthcare for all.

Associate Professor Harrison is a well-respected leader in health systems and policy research, designing and publishing instruments to assess clinician and patient experiences of health care for government and scientific communities.

During the course of her Fellowship, Associate Professor Harrison will examine voluntary patient registration reforms and equitable access to healthcare. Voluntary patient registration has been proposed as a mechanism to formally link patients to primary health care and practices.

Progressing policy

We work hard to represent our members and be the voice of public healthcare to government and policy-makers, guided by our Blueprint for policy reform. In achieving outcomes that matter, AHHA measures its effectiveness in terms of:

- **Progressing policy**
- **Strengthening our alliances**
- **Increasing our base of support**
- **Utilising our expertise**
- **Building our capacity**

SUBMISSIONS RESPONDED TO:

- The Framework discussion paper for the National Health Literacy Strategy development.
- The Second Consultation on the Measuring What Matters Statement
- The mid-term review of the National Health Reform Agreement
- Treasury Consultation on Measuring What Matters
- ACSQHC Sustainable Healthcare Module
- 2023-24 Pre-budget submission
- The Provision of and Access to Dental Services in Australia
- The Draft Australian Cancer Plan
- The Senate Inquiry into Universal Access to Reproductive Healthcare
- The consultation on a Centre for Disease Control
- The Inquiry into Long COVID and Repeated COVID Infections
- The Productivity Inquiry October 2022
- The ACT Government Discussion Paper on the Right to a Healthy Environment
- The IHPA (now IHACPA) Consultation Paper on the Pricing Framework for Australian Public Hospital Services 2023–24.

COMMUNICATIONS:

AHHA sent letters to federal and state/territory ministers, senators, independents politicians and key advisors following the election and on key issues, such as workforce, strengthening Medicare taskforce, health coaching in the NT and measuring what matters.

MEETINGS:

Attended meetings with Ministers, Members of Parliament, Senators and their Senior Advisors. AHHA also attended meetings with Government Department Secretaries, Deputy Secretaries, First Assistant Secretaries and Assistant Secretaries.

Met with senior representatives from various health system stewards, including Department of Health and Aged Care, Treasury, Prime Minister and Cabinet, Productivity Commission, Australian Commission On Safety And Quality In Health Care (ACSQHC), Department of Education, Australia Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW).



Progressing policy

HEALTH POLICY BRIEFS:

We published 7 Deeble Health Policy Briefs with a combined total of over 6,500 views (since publication).

KEY POLICY WINS INCLUDED:

- The Australian Government commenced the development of a National Climate and Health Strategy.
- Workforce reform is on the policy agenda, with several reforms being pursued and funded following the recommendations of the Strengthening Medicare Taskforce Report.
- Launch of the Connecting Australian Healthcare National Healthcare Interoperability Plan 2023-2028, which outlines a national vision to share consumer health information.
- A focus on what matters to people and communities, with the development of the Treasury's Measuring what matters Framework.
- As part of a coalition led by Healthy Futures, AHHA signed on to letters calling for Clean Energy and Gas Free Health Homes in Victoria. The campaign proved successful with the Victorian government announcing that new homes and new public buildings, including hospitals (not already in design phase) will be gas-free from 2024 onwards. Letters calling for Clean Energy and Gas Free Health Homes in Victoria.



AHHA was one of the organisations who signed on to the letters calling for Clean Energy and Gas Free Healthy Homes in Victoria, August 2023. Image credit: Healthy Futures.

Strengthening our alliances

We recognise that networks, connections and partnerships are vital in supporting the translation of evidence into policy and practice. **Activity in the 2022-23 financial year included:**

- Advocated for climate and health reform via domestic partnerships with the **Climate and Health Alliance (CAHA)**, **Better Futures Australia**, **Healthy Environments and Lives Network (HEAL)** and international alliances with Global Green & Healthy Hospitals Network (GGHHN) and the World Health Organization's Alliance for action on climate change and health (ATACH).
- Continued to advocate for universal access to oral health and dental care via the **National Oral Health Alliance (NOHA)** – see the NOHA Joint Position Statement.
- Contributed to the **National Primary and Community Health Network (NPCHN)**, which is a coalition of government representatives, peak bodies and others interested in the important role of primary health care in the Australian health system.
- We worked with leading Australian stroke clinicians, researchers, health services and peak bodies in presenting an evidence-based case for improving access for all Australians to mechanical thrombectomy.
- Participated in the **Department of Health's Primary Care COVID briefings**, chaired by Michael Kidd, to help share important updates from the department and other stakeholder representatives from across Australia.
- Founding member for **HumanAbility**, the Jobs and Skills Council for the health and human services sector, as part of the Australian Government's National Skills Reform to address skills and workforce challenges for our industry.
- Together with **Allied Health Professions Australia**, **Australian Primary Health Care Nurses Association**, **Family Planning NSW**, **Australasian College of Paramedicine** and the **Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation** we signed on to a letter to Federal politicians calling for Multi-Disciplinary Team-based (MDT) models of primary health care.



Strengthening our alliances

REPRESENTING OUR MEMBERS:

We also continued to represent AHHA and our members via the:

- Chief Medical Officer Advisory Group, National Health and Climate Strategy
- Australian Ethical Health Alliance
- National Oral Health Alliance
- Australian Alliance for AI in Healthcare
- Independent Health and Aged Care Pricing Authority (IHACPA) Stakeholder Advisory Committee
- Services Australia Stakeholder Consultative Group
- DVA Health Provider Partnership Forum
- Queensland Government Procurement (Medical Category Council) Industry Reference Group
- National Aged Care Alliance (NACA)
- National Rural Health Alliance
- Australian Health Housing and Homelessness Network

PARTNERING IN RESEARCH:

- Delivering enhanced healthcare at home through optimising virtual tools for older people in rural and regional Australia Advisory Board (Deakin University).
- Healthy Environment and Lives (HEAL) Network (Chair of Steering committee, HEAL Leadership Executive and Co-lead Health systems resilience and sustainability), (Australian National University).
- A dashboard of predictive analytics and decision support to drive care quality and person-centred outcomes in aged care Steering Committee (Macquarie University).
- PC4 Primary Care Collaborative Cancer Clinical Trials Scientific Committee.

GLOBAL CONNECTIONS:

JAPAN

As countries globally face common challenges, we connect through the International Hospital Federation to share experiences.

AHHA CEO Kylie Woolcock sits on the IHF Governing Council and joined their meeting in Japan in May 2023.



The 2023 IHF Governing Council Meeting held in Japan AHHA CEO Kylie Woolcock (five from the left in the top row).



SINGAPORE

Throughout 2022-23 the Centre has engaged in a series of conversations with international partners in Singapore about the implementation of place-based, value-based approaches to health care.

Increasing our base of support

We pride ourselves in our ability to communicate and collaborate with various stakeholders and through many platforms.

Activity in the 2022-23 financial year included:

Hosted 9 webinars: 2372 registrations in total, average of 263 per webinar.

Hosted 3 member only roundtables on key policy submissions.

Offered members an exclusive opportunity to engage with **Dr. Brent James** and **Tim Pehrson**, leaders of the change that produced Intermountain's globally recognised operational and clinical excellence.

Hosted the John Deeble lecture delivered by **Michael Brennan**, Chair Productivity Commission and panel session. This was followed by the Sidney Sax Medal presentation dinner at the National Portrait Gallery, Canberra.

AHHA AT EVENTS:

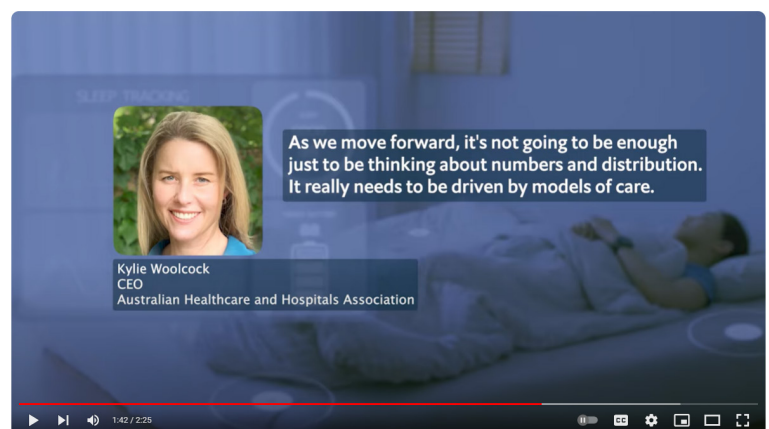
Represented the AHHA at numerous forums, roundtables, summits and conferences, including:

- Productivity Commission Roundtable: digital, data and innovation
- First Secretaries Group Improving Care Pathways for National Cabinet
- SARRAH Rural Primary Health Roundtable
- Health Procurement conference

- WildHealth Summit
- Climate Health Leaders Roundtable in Canberra
- Princess Alexander Hospital Health Symposium in Brisbane
- Rural Generalist Multidisciplinary Teams Summit
- From Risk to Resilience Summit
- RACGP General Practice Crisis summit
- 2023 Child Health Roundtable
- HEAL Conference
- Caring Futures Forum
- Better Future Forum Australia – 6-7 September 2022
- Victorian Health Sector Summit
- World Health Organization (WHO) 5th global forum on Human Resources for Health
- ISPOR Asia Pacific Summit
- Australian National University (ANU) – Kings College London (KCL) Roundtable on Climate Resilient Communities

PART OF THE CONVERSATION:

AHHA CEO Kylie Woolcock was a guest on podcasts including the Healthcare Redefined Series from Phillips and the Policy Forum Pod episode 'Low-value health care and its impact on patients'.



The Phillips Healthcare Redefined Podcast Series is also available via YouTube.

Utilising our expertise



AHHA Consultancy Services are designed to support Australian healthcare organisations at national, state, regional hospital and community levels across all sectors to meet complex governance and organisational requirements of today's healthcare system.

Our expertise in VBHC, research translation and health policy is valued across the health system. Activity in the 2022-23 financial year included:

- We have continued to work with **the Queensland Office of the Chief Allied Health Officer to implement the Queensland Allied Health VBHC Framework** released last year.
- The **End of Life Directions for Aged Care (ELDAC) project**, for which AHHA is a consortium member, received renewed funding for 3 years.
- We facilitated the development of two submissions on behalf of the **National Primary Health Network Cooperative**.
- Our staff were engaged as expert assessors in three research grants assessment rounds.
- Two new modules were developed and released for the **Palliative Care Online Training course**. As of 30 June 2023, over 15,000 people have enrolled in the course since 31 December 2020.

- A **guest lecture on VBHC delivered to Master of Public Health students at the Australian National University (ANU)**.

Projects that commenced in 2022-23 but are still underway include:

- Net Zero Action Plan for a public health network.
- Research and Evaluation Strategy and Framework for a public health service.
- Clinical Governance Guidance Statement and Application Guide for a Primary Health Network.
- The evaluation of the experience of HealthPathways users for a Primary Health Network.
- The development and delivery of **workshops** to build workforce capability in organisations on the Australian health system and value-based health care.
- Continued to deliver the **'Writing for policymakers short course'**.



Building our capacity

The AHHA team encompasses a wide range of skillsets, backgrounds and personalities. As a small team, a positive work culture is important and we take every opportunity to build capacity.

In the 2022 -23 financial year:

- We strengthened our culture and connection to purpose through the development and release of our **2023-28 Strategic Plan** following engagement with members and a series of workshops with the AHHA Board and staff.



- Welcomed Emma Walsh (Policy Officer) and Gregory Mowle (Finance and Operations Manager) to the AHHA team.



Emma Walsh



Gregory Mowle

- Implemented sustainability initiatives around the AHHA office.
- Gained a new skill at a team day axe throwing competition.



AHHA staff team building day: L to R - Ellen Davies, Kylie Woolcock, Suzzie Harvey, Naomi Sheridan, Amy Kang, Sue Humphries, Emma Hoban, Francis Claessens.

Australian Centre for Value-Based Health Care

The Centre was established in 2019 to bring together the many parts of the health system together around a shared focus on improving the health outcomes that matter to people and communities for the cost of achieving those outcomes. Together we can build capacity to support Value-Based Health Care (VBHC) implementation in Australia.

The Centre draws on the research, global best practice and local expertise, to amplify, advocate and facilitate a nationally consistent approach to the development and implementation of place-based, outcome focused value-based health care in Australia.

Since its inception the Centre has focused on:

- Connecting professionals, policy makers and health services to understand VBHC needs
- Highlighting the work being undertaken in value-based health care in Australia
- Exploring issues around implementing value-based health care in Australia; and
- Providing training and educational opportunities.

The Centre strives to bring people together to foster networks of collaboration, share practical VBHC examples and disseminate the latest research and evidence to inform the creation of a person-centred, outcome focused, value driven health system. Through the Centre, AHHA regularly partners with services seeking to implement VBHC, providing tailored support to aid VBHC capacity and capability building in all aspects of VBHC.

This year has again seen substantial growth in the engagement with the Centre, with more people than ever before reaching out to engage with the work of the Centre. Social media engagement has significantly increased and rates of attendance at ACVBHC events and webinars continues to grow.

GLOBAL CONNECTIONS

A conversation with Dr Brent James - engaging clinicians in consumption decisions



In July 2022 AHHA and the Australian Centre for VBHC hosted a conversation with Dr Brent James who spoke with lead clinicians from across our country about engaging clinicians in consumption decisions.

Previously Vice President and Chief Quality Officer at Intermountain Healthcare, Dr James currently holds the role of Clinical Professor, Clinical Excellence Research Centre at the Stanford University School of Medicine.

During the session Dr James discussed both the evidence and his experience in over 100 clinical areas highlighting the tools most effective in driving change. Conversations demonstrated the pressing need to consider the full care pathway in the way we design and implement new models of care and for Australia to implement the digital infrastructure necessary to enable clinicians to have information in real time to inform care decisions.

Participation and engagement in the session in this session was high with many participants reaching out to AHHA afterwards to report the great value they gained from being able to connect with such a global expert.

PARTNERSHIP: HEALTH SYSTEM CAPABILITY BUILDING WORKSHOPS

Across 2022-23 the Centre developed and delivered a series of health system capability building workshops focused on building knowledge of the Australian healthcare system through the lens of VBHC.

Each workshop series is designed in partnership with the stakeholder group participating in the workshops, with the content tailored to the needs of its unique audience, depending on their role within the system and existing level of VBHC understanding.

The workshops explore a range of topics related to VBHC through interactive sessions that feature local case studies, promote group discussions and encourage participants to reflect on their area of work through a value-based systems lens.

Feedback from workshop participants highlights that they find the sessions very useful and particularly enjoy the case studies delivered by guest presenters.

WEBINARS

Throughout 2022/2023 the Australian Centre for VBHC has continued its popular monthly webinar series. Webinars featured presentations from international and Australian VBHC experts on a diverse range of topics associated with VBHC and its implementation.

Engagement with the webinar has gone from strength to strength this year, with two of our webinars 'A roadmap to scalable value-based payments in Australian health care' and 'Strengthening Medicare: how do we redefine the roles of primary and acute care to drive value for people, communities and the system?' receiving over 500 registrations each.



Throughout the past financial year, AHHA held the following webinars:

JULY 2022

Digitally-enabled, value-based care in colorectal cancer: Cabrini Health and The Alfred's experience implementing a global standard for patient-centred outcomes monitoring.

Allied health leadership in the transition to VBHC: The Queensland Health Allied Health Framework for VBHC.

SEPTEMBER 2022

Reaching out and Reaching in - creating the roadmap to a connected health system.

OCTOBER 2022

End of Life Law for Clinicians.

NOVEMBER 2022

The Journey of ACAT to VBHC: Co-designing a community centred, outcome focused and culturally responsive model of care.

FEBRUARY 2023

A roadmap to scalable value-based payments in Australian health care.

MARCH 2023

Providing the health system with a strategic voice in vocational education and training.

Strengthening Medicare: how do we redefine the roles of primary and acute care to drive value for people, communities and the system?

APRIL 2023

Access to Acute Stroke Treatment in Australia.

Watch all of our webinars via our [YouTube channel](#).

The Deeble Institute for Health Policy Research

[The Deeble Institute for Health Policy Research](#) is the research arm of AHHA. It develops, promotes and conducts rigorous and independent research that informs national health policy. It is supported by an Advisory Board chaired by Professor Anna Peeters AM (Institute for Health Transformation, Deakin University).

You can search through a complete list of our Health Policy Issues, Evidence and Perspectives Briefs on the [AHHA website](#).

RESEARCH OUTPUTS

DEEBLE HEALTH POLICY ISSUES BRIEFS

No. 49: *A roadmap towards scalable value-based payments in Australian healthcare*

Prof Henry Cutler

No. 50: *Prioritising carers' health and wellbeing in the healthcare system*

Dr Natalie Winter, Adj AProf Rebecca Haddock

No. 51: *Promoting mental health in a changing climate: children and young people as a priority population group*

Ms Hasini Gunasiri, Adj AProf Rebecca Haddock

No. 52: *Optimising antimicrobial stewardship in Australian primary care*

Dr Sajal Saha, Adj AProf Rebecca Haddock

DEEBLE PERSPECTIVES BRIEFS

No. 24: *Towards a thriving healthcare workforce*

AProf Kate Huggins, Prof Anna Peeters, Dr Sara Holton, Dr Karen Wynter, Prof Alison Hutchinson, Prof Bodi Ramussen, Prof Anthony LaMontagne

No. 25: *The 2022 John Deeble Lecture*

Mr Michael Brennan

No. 26: *Digital maturity models for primary healthcare*

AProf Sandeep Reddy, AProf Lemai Nguyen, Aff AProf Paul Cooper, AProf Kate Huggins, AProf Anna Ugalde, Prof Anna Peeters, Ms Sarah Crowe, Dr Rahual Sharma Bhoyroo, Adj AProf Rebecca Haddock

No. 27: *Risk based cancer screening: the role of primary care*

Ms Crystal Koa, Prof Jon Emery, Dr Sibel Saya

Sponsors of the Deeble Scholarship program: North Western Melbourne PHN, Brisbane North PHN, Capital Health Network, HEAL Network and HESTA.

RESEARCH IMPACTS

Prioritising carers' health and wellbeing in the health-care system

Approximately 10% of Australians provide unpaid care to family or friends living with chronic illness or disability, saving \$77.9 billion in healthcare expenditure in 2020 alone.

Carers experience negative impacts on their physical, mental, social and financial status as a result of their caring role. However, limited support in the community is resulting in poor health and wellbeing outcomes for carers.

Change in the healthcare system is needed to support carers' health and wellbeing, which in turn will facilitate care in the community and reduce the burden on the healthcare system.

Expansions to existing systems and healthcare standards and principles can be made to include carers as separate consumers, to identify their areas of need and to guide government allocation of fundings and services.

[Read this Brief on the AHHA website.](#)

IMPACT

This paper was positively received by policymakers, key stakeholders and academics, both in Australia and internationally. Following publication, Dr Winter was invited to give evidence at the Australian Parliament House of Representative Inquiry into the recognition of unpaid carers

Promoting mental health in a changing climate: children and young people as a priority population group

Children and young people are among the priority population groups that are disproportionately affected by mental health impacts of climate change. As the direct and indirect impacts of climate change intensify, it can be anticipated that the negative consequences for mental health will only increase.

However, there are only a limited number of studies exploring the impact of climate change on children's and young people's mental health. The lack of a strong evidence base poses a major barrier to establishing a mental health system and programs which are fit for purpose.

Overcoming these challenges will require a holistic policy approach which also empowers and supports children and young people to cope and adapt to the realities of climate change and provides them with a stake in decision-making about future climate-related policies and actions.

[Read this Brief on the AHHA website.](#)

IMPACT

This paper has been widely accessed by the mental health, youth health and climate and health sectors. Since publication, Ms Gunasiri has been invited to speak about the paper with a number of key stakeholder organisations, including the Parliamentary Friends of Youth Mental Health; and the work has been featured in media and government reports.

THE AUSTRALIAN HEALTH REVIEW

The Australian Health Review (AHR) is AHHA's peer-reviewed journal, explores major national and international issues in healthcare policy.

The top three most downloaded papers in the journal (2022) were:

- Telehealth uptake in general practice as a result of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic (Snoswell et al.). 44 (5)
- Psychological well-being of Australian hospital clinical staff during the COVID-19 pandemic. (Holton et al.). 45 (3)
- Going digital: a narrative overview of the effects, quality and utility of mobile apps in chronic disease self-management. (Scott et al.). 44 (1).

Downloads of articles (both pdf and HTML) totalled 471,252; up from 455,036 in 2021.

Dr Sonj Hall remained Editor-in Chief, assisted by seven Associate Editors and an eight member Editorial Advisory Board. Find out more about our [AHR Editors](#).



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All Australians, no matter where they live or what they earn, should have access to the best possible healthcare.

AHHA welcomes all individuals and organisations committed to our vision of a healthy Australia, supported by the best possible healthcare system. Membership of AHHA provides access to a broad range of events, research and services and supports our work in ensuring healthcare in Australia is effective, accessible, equitable, sustainable and outcomes-focused.

WHY BECOME A MEMBER?

AHHA membership provides the opportunity to join a community of health sector thought leaders as they grow and shape Australia's health system and gives access to a wide range of services and resources designed to help meet the challenges of this rapidly evolving sector.

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS INCLUDE

- Capacity to influence health policy
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- An avenue to key stakeholders including governments, bureaucracies, media, like-minded organisations and other thought leaders in the health sector
- Access to and participation in research and knowledge translation
- Access to networking opportunities, including quality events
- Access to education and training services
- Access to affordable and credible consultancy services at discounted rates
- Access to online publications and sector updates, including the Australian Health Review

Our members also have access to the services provided by our academic research arm, the Deeble Institute for Health Policy Research.

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