QLD Divisions 
Forum – Program 
Officers Day 

Needs Analysis – its importance 
in local service planning 

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Current Health System Challenges

- Increasing burden of chronic disease;
- Ageing population;
- Inefficiencies between and among various levels of government;
- Health workforce pressures;
- Consumer access and equity;
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health issues.
National Health Reform

- National Health and Hospitals Reform Commission;
- National Primary Health Care Strategy;
- Preventative Health Taskforce;
- COAG Closing the Gap;
- National Health and Hospitals Network.
Why Primary Health Care Reform?

“Moving towards health for all requires that health systems respond to the challenges of a changing world and growing expectations for better performance. This involves substantial reorientation and reform of the ways health systems operate in society today: those reforms constitute the agenda of the renewal of Primary Health Care.”

Why Primary Health Care Reform?

- Fragmented, siloed approaches and services;
- Complex funding arrangements;
- Inconsistent approaches across jurisdictions;
- Inequitable access to services;
- Major health inequalities;
- Growing complexity and inflexibility for health care organisations, health care providers and consumers.
A Reformed Primary Health Care System

- Draft Primary Health Care Strategy proposes 10 key elements which could underpin a future Australian primary health care system;
- Focus on access to primary health care services which keep people well and manage ill-health;
- Service delivery arrangements that promote safety and quality;
- Support for primary health care workforce;
- Sustainable and cost-effective funding arrangements.
A Reformed Primary Health Care System

• Providing a regionalised approach to planning, coordination and delivery through establishment of primary health care organisations

• Primary Health Care Organisations could replace or evolve from existing Divisions of General Practice
What PHC reform could deliver for consumers of health services

- Simpler arrangements and easier system navigation;
- Connected and integrated care;
- Better access to services;
- Stronger focus on performance and accountability of health services;
- Targeted approaches for disadvantaged populations;
- Participation in governance arrangements for PHC
What PHC reform could deliver for providers of health services

• Better team work and communication systems;
• Better support for GPs and other primary health care providers;
• Greater patient satisfaction and health outcomes
• Improved financing arrangements
• Regional planning; local flexibility
The Reform agenda so far: PHCOs

- 8 reform streams
  - Hospitals, GP and Primary Health Care, Aged Care, Mental Health, National standards and performance, Workforce, Prevention, ehealth

- The first PHCOs to be established by 1 July 2011
  - Work with full spectrum of primary health care providers
  - Better services
  - Improve access to care
  - Drive integration

- Coordinated diabetes care, primary health care infrastructure, improving access to after hours care
What is GPQ doing around health reform?

- Working with AGPN and DoHA
- Working with Queensland Government/ Queensland Health
- Working with Stakeholders
- Working with Divisions
- Policy/ Research agenda
- Communication Strategies
Why do we need to think about needs analysis and service planning for PHCOs?

• PHCOs will have a broader role, function and membership

• PHCOs will need to:
  • understand community needs
  • work with a broad spectrum of stakeholders
  • play a key role in supporting better integrated and coordinated care
  • Establish Linkages between Local Hospital Networks and PHCOs as part of an integrated primary health care system
  • understand the needs analysis process and the benefits to local service planning
  • draw on the identified health priority areas for the Queensland and Australian population
  • collect data to determine a true population health profile
  • identify and have a good understanding of existing health services
  • identify, understand and prioritise community needs
  • work, consult and partner with a broad spectrum of stakeholders
  • justify the prioritisation of community needs using defined criteria
  • to identify, deliver and evaluate strategies to address community need
Questions?
Thank you