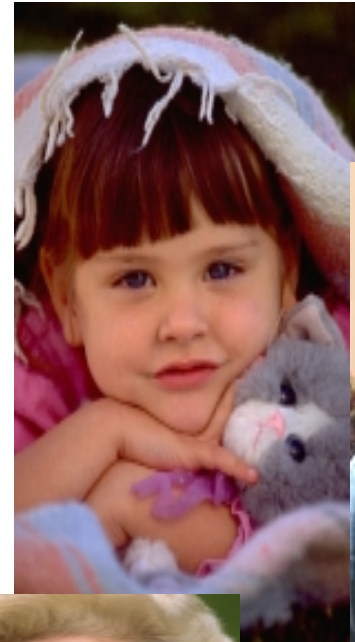


Explaining Divisions : sharing stories



Explaining Divisions 24 October 2003

Division stories



Explaining Divisions 24 October 2003

Agenda

- 10.00 About General Practice
- 10.30 About Divisions
- 11.15 MORNING TEA
- 11.30 About Divisions programs
- 12.30 Common roles for consumer and community reps
- 1.00 Your questions answered
- 1.30 LUNCH

How might divisions' stories about general practice differ from our personal one?



General Practice -the view from divisions



- **GPs are the members.**
- **Most GPs work in private practice**
- **Private practices are small businesses**
- **GPs work long hours and have limited time for division activities**
- **GPs want support for building practice quality**

GP support needs

Clinical
issues

Business
issues



Personal
issues

Professional
development
issues

Clinical issues



Business viability

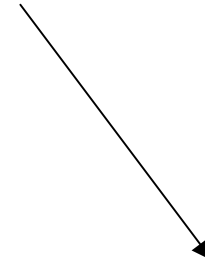
- costs
- income
- red tape
- unpaid activities
- accreditation
- insurance
- regulation
- new technology

Personal issues

Professional development issues

Clinical issues

Business issues



Personal
issues

Professional development issues

- maintaining registration
- interests
- growth
- keeping up

Clinical issues

Business issues

Personal issues

- time management
- balancing work and
- family
- GP health



Professional
development issues

- When I am acting as a representative at division meetings I will need to reflect on some things about General Practice that may be outside my experience with my own GP. These might include

What is a Division of General Practice?



- A local organisation of GPs
- GP membership is voluntary
- Overseen by elected Board of Directors
- Funded by DoHA
- Varied in size and budget

The main aims of the Divisions of General Practice Program

- **To encourage GPs to work together**
- **with other health professionals**
- **at the local level**
- **to upgrade the quality of health service delivery and thereby**
- **improve health outcomes for patients.**

Why Divisions ?

Community

Profession

- GP isolation
- GP Professional standards
- GP income

•Quality of services

•GP accessibility

•GP / patient communication

•GP role in linking patients with other services

Government

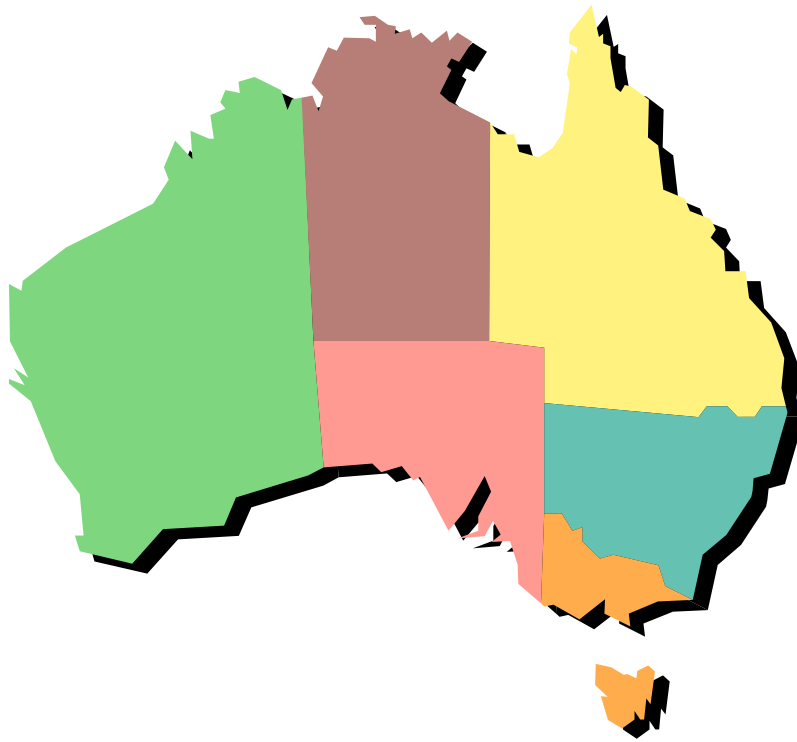
- Health system costs
- Quality of GP services
- Geographical distribution of GPs

How Divisions grew



- 1991/92 Demonstration Divisions
- 1992/93 Divisions and Projects Grants Program continued for six years
- 1999/2003 Outcomes Based Funding contracts for Divisions

How many Divisions?



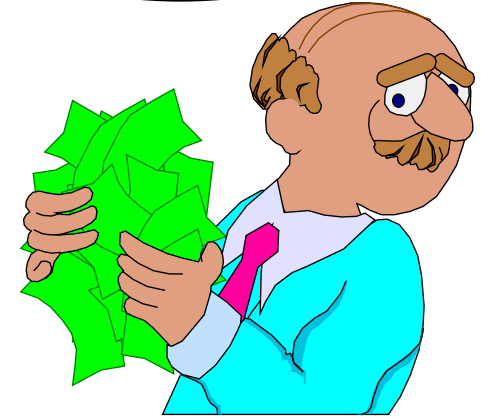
- 120 Divisions across Australia
- 30 Divisions across Victoria
- Budgets in Victoria range from \$300,000 to \$850,000

**Reduced GP
isolation**

**High GP
membership**

**Computerisation
of General Practice**

Key Achievements



**Voice heard by
government**

**Practice
Accreditation**

**GP Professional
Development**

**Divisions the vehicle
for promoting national
quality programs**

**Well informed
about local health
needs**

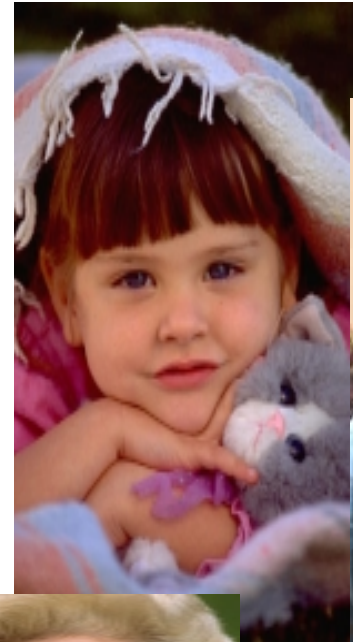
**Seek
local input**

Key Achievements

- community connections

Health service planning and design

Sharing stories is ongoing work.
What issues do GPs and consumers
have in common?



Explaining Divisions 24 October 2003

Give one or two reasons why each of the following groups have a strong interest in Divisions.

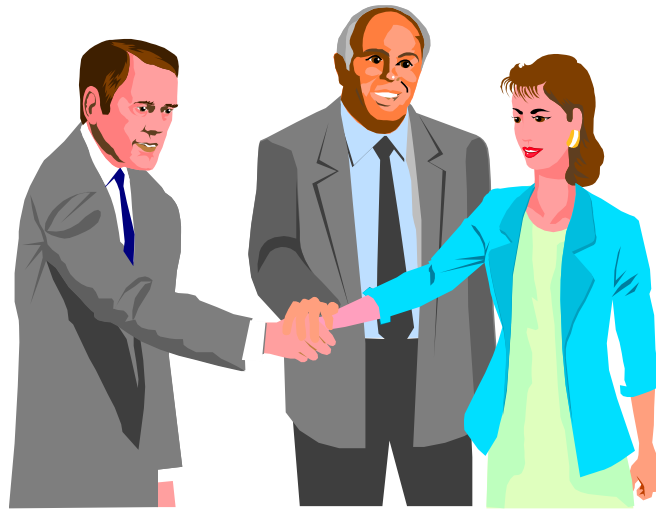
GPs ?

Community?

Government?

Roles of Community and Consumer Representatives in Divisions

- Community members are asked to play many and varied roles within Divisions



Your questions answered

- Do divisions have a regulatory function?
Can I complain to a division about a GP?
- How to be an effective community rep e.g
how to broaden from individual to
community view
- What is the “reach” of the division. If I
communicate with a division am I reaching
all the GPs in the area?

Your questions answered

- My area of interest is mental health, specifically opportunities to make services more responsive to family/carer needs.
- Do the GPs and Board take consumer input seriously?
- How do divisions impact on consumers?
- How much commitment do I need to make?