

## **GP ENGAGEMENT IN IDM PROJECTS**

**Teleconference with participating Divisions of General Practice,  
18 September 2001**

### **KEY POINTS:**

#### **Views on how the IDM projects are including the views of general practice**

- GPs are adequately represented in IDM/PCP committees
- Concern that most PCP agencies don't view general practice participation as central to the success of the IDM Project, not recognised as requiring significant focus.
- There is perceived limited understanding of current GP role & capacity in chronic disease prevention/mgt. This is seen as a barrier to enhancing and changing the GP contribution as part of an integrated approach.
- One Division said their IDM Project has a commitment to full involvement of general practice, and serious engagement with the issues of engaging GPs.

#### **Issues arising for GP involvement in the IDMs, and potential roles**

- The role of GPs is yet to be fully explored.
- GP involvement is seen as critical, a main source of referral.
- GPs also have data which will be valuable to IDMs
- Sustainability of the model is important.
- Tools, such as the INI tool will need to be GP friendly (the tool template circulated is not seen as achieving this).
- Paperwork for GPs needs to be kept to a minimum. Referral tools should work off existing software. If it requires additional GP workload without clear benefit to the practice and to patients, it won't happen.
- Need to demonstrate clearly to GPs the practical application of what is in it for them ie. how their involvement will improve uptake of the EPC items and translate into improved consumer outcomes.
- A key issue is how to provide supports and incentives to ensure GPs are able to participate in the models. This should involve enhancing and supporting what GPs already do. Eg:
  - o Providing support for EPC case conferencing (eg a joint PCP/Division worker, support for practice nurse role).
  - o Offering hands-on support for IM to support referral and multidisciplinary care and practice IM system development (eg records, registers, recall & reminder, referral templates, EPC MBS templates) to key practices