

The Role of Divisions in Primary Health Care

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Introduction to
GPDV Forum 21 Aug 2005



GPDV is a QIC accredited organisation

Today's agenda

- Summary of May Forum on Emergency & Disaster Planning
- National Primary Health Care Policy

May Forum Summary (1)

- Two broad categories
 - disaster and pandemic
- Key issues in development of plans
 - clarification of roles
 - lines of communication
 - resolution of indemnity issues
- Commonwealth Games

May Forum Summary (2): Action

- GPDV to organise
 - a working group with DHS.
 - Follow up re Commonwealth Games
- Result
 - GPDV on State Health Emergency Response Plan (SHERP) Working Group
 - Emergency Response Plan to be complete March 2006
 - GP role in C'wealth Games to be defined

Background to this Forum

National

- ADGP *Vision for Divisions* paper 2002
- ADGP Primary Care Policy Group 2004
- Divisions Network draft position paper

Victoria

- From Aug 04 Forum on Workforce
- Policy Paper 22 – Nov 04 Forum
- Contribute to the Network draft

Why change?

Is the health system

Effective

Efficient X

Accessible X

Continuous X

Sustainable X

Appropriate X

Responsive

Safe

Capable

Equitable X

Approach of Governments

- Small changes; no clear standards
- Unconnected programs
- Inequitable & inconsistent results
- Little or no overall strategy
- Many funding streams & cost shifting

A policy provides

- a clear objective and direction
- a framework for planning
- a benchmark for assessing proposals
- a filter against ill-directed ideas from
 - ministers
 - advisers
 - departments
 - vocal lobbyists and entrepreneurs

To bring change

- Decide what we want
 - for general practice
 - within primary health care
 - with other players in primary health care
- Lobby for the national policy that will get us there

Influencing policy

- What are the problems?
- What sort of policy do we want?
- Who else has an interest?
- How do we persuade governments?

Today's task

- Raise questions from the presentations
- Suggest answers that will help the development of the Divisions' Network's position
- Prepare for further debate in Perth

Hot Topic

A Victorian position on

- Proposed changes to RRMA*
- Review of Rural Workforce Agencies and the need for workforce support for urban divisions*