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healthUPdate

28 September 2020 | Issue 16



For health's sake, consider climate

Without effective action, climate change is set to exert a greater hit on human health and the world economy than that currently triggered by COVID-19, according to internationally recognised scientific groups.

So, the absence of reference to the health impact of climate change in a government consultation paper on preventive health raises fundamental questions about what the government is hoping to achieve in setting a path for future health.

This week CHF joined the Climate and Health Alliance and 30 other leading health groups to call for the 10-Year National Preventive Health Strategy to address the health impacts of climate change, noting its negative health impacts range from harms to every human organ system, to disruption of the healthcare supply, safety and quality of care.

CHF's submission to the Government consultation earlier had also stated that addressing climate change is a key preventive health action that needs to be included in the Strategy.

As the pervasive intrusion of COVID hopefully recedes, we trust the Government will return its focus to long term reform goals like preventive health and primary health care.

Its unfortunate that the preventive health consultation paper appears rooted in old, narrow ways that fail to acknowledge the influence of social determinants of health. The Strategy as framed in the consultation paper, we believe, will not deliver the systemic shifts that are needed across government and society to reduce health inequities and address the social, cultural, environmental and commercial determinants of health.

Our concerns about the consultation document include the emphasis on motherhood statements, avoiding difficult issues such as social determinants of health, ignoring mental health, not listening to suggestions to activate communities in the prevention space through social prescribing and several other issues. We need the National Preventive Health Strategy to be specific in its purpose and to propel us forward.

The role of consumers and communities is not sufficiently recognised. A collaborative approach is needed drawing on lived experience and using a co-design philosophy to embed prevention in health services, policy and research

After the tumultuous times we have been through, we at CHF need to stop and look inwards about how we are supporting and engaging with our key "assets": consumer reps. To that end we are about to launch Consumer Links, a knowledge exchange and skills development webinar series for reps and Special Interest Groups. We will also be surveying reps to ask them what topics they would find most beneficial.

We are, after all, a community. Whether it be the future of preventive health or halting COVID, the outcomes will be shaped by our community.

Leanne Wells
Chief Executive Officer



News and resources



Consumer champion who beat health challenges honoured for service

Brad Rossiter OAM, is a consumer health advocate whose own challenging life experience has inspired his community work on the NSW South Coast.

Brad, of Bateman's Bay has been awarded the Order of Australia Medal for his services to community health, presented to him by the Governor-General, David Hurley, recently.

Having lived with diabetes type 1 since boyhood, Brad is legally blind, a double amputee and a recipient of kidney and pancreas transplants. That has not stopped Brad from being an outstanding patient advocate and health consumer representative.

He is an active member of Health Consumers NSW and is also with CHF's rural and regional special interest group.

"I have received the greatest of gifts from someone whom I don't know and have never met – a double organ donation!" He urges people to register on the Australian Organ Donor Register and to tell their family.

He established the Eurobodalla Renal Support Group & Organ Donor Awareness in 2007. Through lobbying at state and federal level, the Eurobodalla Shire received a five-chair Dialysis unit at Moruya Hospital. Recent extensions at the hospital have included a new renal unit with 12 Dialysis chairs.

His group hosts a weekly awareness and education day known as 'Find Out Friday'.

Over the past decade, Brad and his wife Lorae have hosted over 600 community awareness and education events to promote health services and accessibility.

He is a consumer representative on the NSW Agency for Clinical Innovation and the Clinical Excellence Commission providing community experience feedback and relay information to consumers.

What does he think rural health consumers most need in NSW? "Transport, Transport, Transport!"



Join us to save lives and improve the health of Australians.

Join us in medical research

Participate in research and help to prevent, treat and find cures for disease. Sign up to be matched with research studies.

Join Us is a simple online register that helps researchers prevent, treat and find cures for disease. For you, your family, your neighbours and for everyone. Join Us today.

The George Institute has launched a project called Join Us, which aims to recruit a million Australians who consent to be contacted if there's a study they could be involved in. Medical research and trials are a key component of developing new ways to fight illnesses but it's often quite hard to recruit participants, with many studies fall over at this hurdle because they just don't get enough people to participate.

The <u>Join Us register</u> is an easy way for millions of Australians to participate in life-saving health and medical research. It is a secure register that matches participants with research studies addressing Australia's biggest health challenges. There is no obligation for you to participate in any research project.

CHF has been a member of the Steering Committee in the design and set up of this research register and believe that improving the success rates of health research in Australia with lead to health improvements for all Australians.

The Join us register was recently featured on ABC's <u>The Health Report</u> with Dr Norman Swan

SIGN UP TO THE REGSITER



Electronic prescriptions available throughout Victoria following success in **Greater Melbourne**

All Victorians will soon have access to electronic prescriptions as they are made available to the entire state beyond the initial rollout in Greater Melbourne.

There has been significant uptake of electronic prescriptions since they were made available across Greater Melbourne in August. Since then more than 34,000 electronic prescriptions have been received by patients in Melbourne from around 1000 prescribers and 600 community pharmacies.

Nationally, more than 100,000 electronic prescriptions have been written since May when the Australian Digital Health Agency started implementing the new technology as a way to support Australians during COVID-19.

FIND OUT MORE



The digital Style Manual from the Digital Transformation Agency

It's official. September 24 the Digital Style Manual graduated from public Beta to Live.

Going Live with Style Manual is a huge milestone for all Australian Government writers and editors. The DTA is proud to be making history in delivering the first digital edition.

The cross-agency Governance Board has endorsed the Live release. It has resolved that the digital Style Manual supersedes both the sixth edition of the Style Manual and the Content Guide.

The Style Guide is evidence-based and shaped by users.

The rules and guidance is based on evidence and user needs. A crossagency Working Group reviewed all content before release to private Beta.

There has been extensive content testing and usability research and the writers and editors will I continue to rely on user research and evidence to keep improving Style Manual in this live verison.

FIND OUT MORE

AUSTRALIAN COMMISSION ON SAFETY AND QUALITY IN HEALTH CARE

safetyandquality.gov.au

New informed consent guidance for clinicians

The Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (ACSQHA) has developed new guidance for clinicians on how to obtain informed consent in health care. This resource is targeted at clinicians however you may find it useful when for consumers on matters related to informed consent.

Good clinical practice involves ensuring that informed consent is validly obtained and appropriately timed. Properly obtaining informed consent is a legal, ethical and professional requirement for all health professionals and supports person-centred care.

Download Informed consent in health care fact sheet

The fact sheet provides information on the key principles for informed consent, how to obtain valid informed consent, principles for assessing legal capacity, information on legal obligations, and links to further information and useful resources.

To find out more visit the website or email mail@safetyandquality.gov.au.

VISIT THE WEBSITE

AUSTRALIAN COMMISSION ON SAFETY AND QUALITY IN HEALTH CARE

BETTER CARE EVERYWHERE

Healthcare variation in practice

PROGRAM SERIES



New online program series in 2021

The Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (ACSQHC) is excited to announce the Better Care Everywhere, Healthcare variation in practice online program series.

Starting in February 2021, our program series will include presentations and webinars with live Q&A sessions, delivered by high profile Australian healthcare policy leaders, clinical experts and consumer representatives, as well as Commission staff.

Featuring clinical topics from the Australian Atlas of Healthcare Variation series, expert speakers will discuss the key drivers of healthcare variation in Australia and present practical ways to identify, investigate and address unwarranted variation in health care.

This program series will benefit clinicians, health service leaders and managers, policy makers and students. It will also be of interest to consumers who want to make sure they receive the right health care, no matter where they are.

Join us to find out how you can help drive improvements in the equity of health care in Australia. Registrations will open soon.

VISIT THE WEBSITE

Dementia Action Week

21-27 September 2020

A little support makes a lot of difference



The importance of keeping in touch with those with dementia

Dementia is the chronic disease of the 21st century. It affects nearly half a

million Australians and that is set to double in the next 25 years.

It is <u>Dementia Action Week</u> and a Dementia Australia survey is showing just how important it is for people to keep in touch with those they know who are living with dementia.

A little support makes a lot of difference. The survey found that three out of four people who live with dementia say people don't keep in touch like they used to, while 65 per cent say people they know have been avoiding or excluding them.

An estimated 70 per cent of people who live with dementia, live in the community. It is our role as a community to do the best we can to support people living with dementia to live well for as long as possible.

VIISIT THE WEBSITE

World Mental Health Day 2020

"Look after your mental health, Australia."

lookafteryourmentalhealthaustralia.org.au



Mental Health Awareness Day

This year's World Mental Health Day campaign is encouraging everyone to make a promise to "Look after your mental health, Australia."

It is a simple call to action for the one in five Australians affected by mental illness annually, and for the many more impacted by the current COVID-19 pandemic, and the increased uncertainty and anxiety that has ensued over the last six months.

Head over to the campaign website to make a mental health promise, hear some tips and advice from organisations and Australians, and find resources to help mark World Mental Health Day in your workplace or community.

VISIT MENTAL HEALTH AUSTRALIA



World Skin Health Day

World Skin Health Day

The Australasian College of Dermatologists

Your story matters. For this year's World Skin Health Day, The Australasian College of Dermatologists is keen to hear from patients and their families about your experiences of having a dermatology appointment by telehealth.

To share your stories and for more information, please visit the College website. Stories for World Skin Health Day should be submitted by 2 Oct.

WEBSITE

Summits, seminars and conferences

Exclusive offer for CHF members Use code CHFDISCOUNT to receive \$50 off!



Over 230 confirmed speakers.
One registration for full access!



Presented by the AUSTRALASIAN INSTITUTE OF DIGITAL HEALTH



Digital Health Institute Summit 2020

The **Digital Health Institute Summit 2020** will unite the digital health movement in 2020, one of the health sector's most challenging years. It presents a unique opportunity to reconnect with like-minded peers and forge new alliances as we bring together clinical leaders, researchers and forward thinkers to present their latest innovations, best ideas and practical case studies. With over **230 confirmed speakers** covering a wide range of digital health topics, there's something for everyone, no matter what your area of speciality or interest.

You can attend the whole Summit, in-person or virtually, with **just one registration!** One registration gives you access to ALL five city programs plus the Global Speaker Showcase, an online group of digital health leaders and expert presenters. Full conference content will be available ondemand for two months post event. Exclusive offer for CHF members - use code CHFDISCOUNT to receive \$50 off the full price.

FIND OUT MORE

CHF Conference - abstracts open

The CHF Conference is now a virtual event!

CHF Summit 2021 - Shifting Gears

18 - 19 March 2021

Submissions can be for oral, workshop or poster presentations.

Abstract submissions are now open



We invite you to propose topics across our four streams:

- Consumers as researchers: Partnering for new knowledge and translation
- Consumer-based Health Care: Integrating consumer and community values in health care and decision-making
- **Consumer Leadership:** Collaborative partnerships in individual health care, services and system
- Consumer Enablement: Creating supportive environments

See more about topics for submissions.

The **closing date** for abstract submissions is **16 October 2020**.

Principal Sponsors of the Shifting Gears summit: Australian Commission for Safety and Quality in Health Care, Australian Department of Health, Australian Digital Health Agency and NSW Health.

Conference website

Consultations



Data Availability and Transparency Bill

The Australian Government is working to develop better, more seamless services to the public, and this project will be to modernise how we manage the wealth of information supplied by Australians to various government agencies.

The Office of the National Data Commissioner has released an exposure draft of the Data Availability and Transparency Bill and associated materials, and a discussion paper on the Accreditation Framework that has been proposed to control entry into the data sharing scheme.

The draft documents and explanatory <u>materials are on the ONDC</u> <u>website</u> and an information webinar will be held on October 14th. Interested <u>people can register for here</u>.

CHF will be providing a submission to this consultation, if you wish to contribute please contact James at <u>i.ansell@chf.org.au</u>

REGISTER

The National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research

The National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) is proposing to include new and revised chapters in Section 4 and Section 5 of the National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research, 2007 (updated 2018) (the National Statement).

Closing date for this public consultation is 5:00pm (AEDT) Friday 30 October 2020.

MORE INFORMATION

Medical Services Advisory Committee

The Department of Health (the Department) has commenced a review of the Medical Services Advisory Committee (MSAC) technical guidelines (the Review) to ensure assessment processes are aligned with best practice in Health Technology Assessment for therapeutic and investigative medical technologies and services.

Stakeholders have the opportunity to engage with (and provide comments on) these draft guidelines during the call for public submissions.

MORE INFORMATION

Medical Research Future Fund strategy and priorities

The Australian Medical Research Advisory Board (AMRAB) is conducting a consultation to develop the Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF) Australian Medical Research and Innovation Priorities 2020-22 (the Priorities).

The MRFF strategy and priorities inform where the Australian Government directs MRFF research funding. The Health Minister takes into account the MRFF strategy and priorities when deciding how to use the fund's money.

Further information about the consultation opportunity, including a Consultation Guidance Paper that has been prepared by AMRAB, is available via the Department of Health's consultation hub. Public submissions can be made through the <u>consultation hub</u>.

There will be public webinars to support the consultation and where necessary targeted virtual roundtable discussions. Details and booking arrangements for the webinars will be made available on the MRFF website.

If you want to patriciate by adding your voice into the CHF submission, email your views to James Ansell: <u>j.ansell@chf.org.au</u>

The consultation opportunity will be open to 7 October 2020.

MORE INFORMATION



Do you or someone you care for have arthritis back pain or another musculoskeletal condition?

Musculoskeletal Australia (MSK) is very pleased to officially launch its national consumer survey, which will be the largest and most comprehensive consumer-driven survey of people living with musculoskeletal conditions and their carers, undertaken in in Australia.

The survey will allow the voices of the 1 in 3 Australians affected to be heard, and the results will be used to determine how care can be improved.

Take the <u>survey now</u>

Read more information about the survey.

TAKE THE SURVEY



Heart Failure Consumer survey

Are you living with heart failure or caring for someone with heart failure?

If this is you, we'd love you to complete our 5 minute survey. Your responses are confidential & will help us design an educational program to improve the management of heart failure.

Your contribution will help identify opportunities to improve the management of heart failure and reduce preventable hospitalisations. Your responses are anonymous and confidential, and you will not be identified in any records or reports.

<u>NPS MedicineWise</u> is an independent, evidence based, not-for-profit organisation that works to improve the safe and quality use of medicines

TAKE THE SURVEY















Have you had a session with a...

Diabetes educator
Exercise physiologist/ scientist
Occupational therapist
Osteopath
Podiatrist
Speech pathologist
Sports scientist
via video conferencing or telephone?

Complete a survey about your experiences to go into the draw to win a \$500 debit card

Survey on Telehealth by Melbourne University and Allied Health Professionals

You are invited to participate in a research project to help us find out about the experiences of people who have received care from an allied healthcare clinician during the COVID-19 pandemic. If you or your parent/carer are happy to share your thoughts and complete a brief survey.

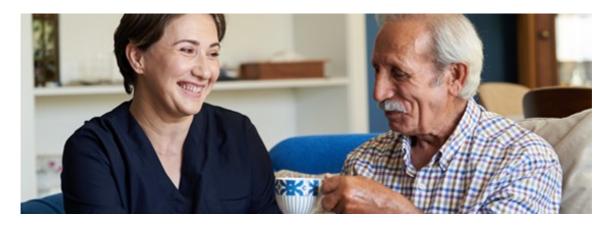
The survey will take 15-20 minutes to complete. Survey responses will be anonymous and no identifying data (e.g. names, addresses etc.) will be collected.

Participants in the survey will go into a draw to win a \$500 prepaid visa card.

Survey for consumers

Survey for clinicians

For more information contact Dr Stephanie Filbay, email: stephanie.filbay@unimelb.edu.au or Tel: (03) 8344 0088



Invitation to participate in a research project about improving hospital discharge for carers and older adults

Monash University are seeking 25 carers of older adults living in the community to take part in an interview for a research project. The research project aims to identify carers' experiences and needs in supporting older adults who are discharged from hospital to home. The research interview will take place by telephone and it will take about one hour. To take part, carers will:

- Be supporting an older adult living in the community with chronic health difficulties, and
- Have experience with discharge from hospital to home following admission for a physical health problem of the older adult that they support

All carers are very welcome including those from diverse cultural backgrounds, diverse sexual orientation, and diverse locations such as rural and regional areas. Carers who have recently supported an older adult (within the past 12 months) are also eligible.

Contact Jacqui Allen, Monash University School of Nursing and Midwifery on 0427 940 794 or email: Jacqui.allen@monash.edu for more information.



Dementia medicine survey

A university study into medicines for people living with dementia is seeking to hear from people living with dementia, their carers, family members and friends as well as health care professionals and students who have experience with care for people with dementia.

The study is being conducted by researchers from the University of South Australia, in collaboration with researchers from the University of Sydney,

Monash University and University of New South Wales, and in partnership with the James Lind Alliance.

For more information and to complete the questionnaire online go to: "Quality Use of Medicines in People Living with Dementia: Determining research priorities" OR for a paper copy with reply paid envelope to be sent to you, contact Dr Emily Reeve, Phone: 08 8302 2757 or E-mail: priorities.dementia@unisa.edu.au

GO TO THE WEBSITE



Dignity Survey - Safe Motherhood for All

The Birth Dignity Survey 2020 - Do women in Australia have the birth they want?

The Birth Dignity Survey focuses on women's experiences of maternity care to understand what women want & need, and the issues pregnant women face during pregnancy, birth and the postnatal period.

The survey is open until 30 September 2020 for all women who have birthed in Australia in the past two years.

<u>Safe Motherhood for All Inc</u> would like to encourage First Nation women, rural women; culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) women and women experiencing vulnerability to complete the survey.

COMPLETE THE SURVEY



Australias Health Panel

Australia's Health Panel allows consumers to comment on health policy and issues, and offer feedback on trends and discussions.

Join **Australia's Health Panel** and have your say on today's issues in health care. Please share details about Australia's Health Panel with your networks.

HAVE YOUR SAY



Future of virtual healthcare delivery in a COVID-19 world: Learnings and challenges

NHMRC CRE Webinar led by Professor Keith McNeill with Professor Peter Brooks

Professor McNeill will discuss who whe sees the future of virtual healthcare delivery in Australia and how research can inform these developments.

For more details contact NHMRC CRE Program Manager, Anda Llanaj: digitalhealthcre@unimelb.edu.au

More information about the NHMRC CRE

FIND OUT MORE

Webinar replays

A summary of our recent webinars for health care consumers

 Patients, partners in health – significant trends for change, with increasing acceptance of patients being engaged as partners with clinicians. What does this mean for Australia's approach? watch replay

- Social prescribing, the referral of patients to non-medical activities to supplement conventional care - webinar on successful trials in Canada and Australia watch replay
- A celebration of the learnings from the National Collaborative Pairs program <u>watch replay</u>
- Script change electronic prescribing and the consumer ... watch replay
- Not Going Viral consideration of future-focused health policy post COVID with Deputy Chief Medical Officers Dr Nic Coatsworth and Prof Michael Kidd watch replay
- Telehealth in Primary Care watch replay
- The National Health Information Strategy what is it, and does it mean for consumers watch replay

CHF YOUTUBE CHANNEL

Media releases and blog posts

<u>Leading health groups call on government to address climate health impacts in National Preventive Health Strategy</u>

Over 30 health groups today released a Joint Statement calling on the federal government to address climate change in the National Preventive Health Strategy MEDIA RELEASE: 22 SEPT 2020

Patient Safety Day: In everybody's interest.

September 17, is World Patient Safety Day and consumers and those who work to prevent infection are calling for all Australians to recognise the vital part we can all play in uniting to halt COVID-19. ... MEDIA RELEASE: 16 SEPT 2020

<u>Understanding Australia's Virtual Care Needs</u>

Health systems around the world have been looking closely at ways that virtual care could enhance the sustainability of health services, a shift accelerating as COVID-19 drives a rapid...

MEDIA RELEASE: 08 SEPT 2020

Digital reimagining for benefit of all

CHF has undertaken numerous activities during the pandemic to gauge consumer sentiment on federal government initiatives... BLOGPOST 22 SEPT 2020

Partnership to better health

How can patients and clinicians get a better outcome from health care? It's a question of central importance never more so than now with health cares... <u>BLOGPOST 18 SEPT 2020</u>

All Media Releases and editorial

CHF Journal - Health Voices



Tipping the Scales in favour of obesity prevention – how should we use the crisis of Covid-19?

Political will is necessary to drive change in promoting healthy diet and challenge the corporations whose activities and profits would be curtailed, writes Jane Martin.

Health Voices Issue 26 | May 2020

READ MOIRE



Use **Healthdirect Australia**, the Australian Government Health advice portal for consumers, for <u>information on Coronavirus information</u>, <u>symptom checker</u> and helpline: 1800 022 222.

Turn to the website of the <u>Department of Health</u> to find the most recent, verified information, posted daily.

Use the <u>World Health Organisation</u> website to verify accuracy of health advice.

Be Health Aware - CHF portal for health resources

Consumer program

Consumer representative appointments

Congratulations to:

Jacqueline Lesange, nominated to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare - National Asthma and Other Chronic Respiratory Conditions Monitoring Advisory Group.



Consumer representative vacancies

CHF nominates consumer representatives to high level committees and those related to funded priority areas. Calls for nominations are made via *healthUPdate* and the CHF website. Not all opportunities are advertised due to time limitations or because CHF decides to target invitations due to the specific work or strategic nature of the work involved.

More information about all the opportunities below can be found on our Consumer opportunities webpage.

If you have any questions, please contact the person listed or alternatively, our Consumer and Member Relationship Coordinator, **Ghislaine Martin**, on 02 6273 5444 or email <u>g.martin@chf.org.au</u>.

Full details of committee vacancies are only accessible on our website by our members and consumer representatives. If you do not have access and would like to apply, please contact Ghislaine Martin on 02 6273 5444 or g.martin@chf.org.au.

Australian Community Pharmacy Authority

The Department of Health

The Department of Health is looking for consumers for appointment to the Australian Community Pharmacy Authority. The final decision on the appointment will be at the discretion of the Minister for Health, the Hon Greg Hunt MP.

The appointment is for a two year term from July 2021 to July 2023.

Applications close at 12:00 midnight AEST on Sunday 4 October 2020.

MORE INFORMATION

Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee

The Department of Health is looking for a consumer for possible appointment to the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee (PBAC). The final decision on the appointment will be at the discretion of the Minister for Health, the Hon Greg Hunt MP.

The appointment is for a four year term from July 2021 to July 2025.

Applications close at 12:00 midnight AEST on Sunday 18 October 2020.

MORE INFORMATION

SEE ALL CONSUMER REP OPPORTUNITES

Other Consumer Representative Vacancies

This section is for consumer representative opportunities that CHF does not provide nominations for. Members can work directly with other stakeholders to nominate consumer representatives to committees that are of interest to them.

CHF checks that consumer participation is supported with coverage of travel costs and sitting fees, however CHF does not prescribe an amount for sitting fees as committee requirements vary.

There are no advertised consumer representative opportunities this fortnight.

Community Advisory Committee

COORDINARE

The South Eastern NSW PHN, COORDINARE provides opportunities for consumers and the community to have a greater say over issues that directly affect the delivery of health care throughout the region.

COORDINARE's Community Advisory Committee provides expert advice to the Board on consumer and community engagement strategies to ensure where possible decisions, investments and innovations are inclusive, culturally responsive, locally relevant and aligned to local care experiences and expectations.

Applications close at the Close of Business on Monday 30 November 2020.

MORE INFORMATION



We sent you this email because you opted to receive this newsletter from the <u>Consumers Health Forum</u>.

<u>Unsubscribe</u> or email us <u>info@chf.org.au</u> | Tel: 02 6273 5444