

# healthUPdate

15 March 2021 | Issue 4

## From the CEO



### **#ShiftingGearsSummit — a first for health consumers**

Finally, the inaugural Australasian consumer health conference is coming to a screen near you. Its staging on March 18 & 19 is very much emblematic of COVID times. Initially postponed from last year, it's now coming to you through the medium du jour — virtual.

The content of the Shifting Gears Summit reflects the shifting up of health consumer experiences and challenges that COVID has accentuated.

There will be 50 conference speakers from around Australia, New Zealand and the world. Their talks will reflect the #ShiftingGearsSummit themes of consumer experience and leadership. As the health system is having to step up to meet the shifts in knowledge and technology, so also are consumers.

Discussions will range over consumer involvement in health research, consumer-based health care, consumer leadership, enablement, COVID and New Zealand perspectives. Person-centred care in large emergency departments, consumer leadership in cancer care and digital health also just some of the items on the agenda.

The speakers' program also highlights the wide range of consumer-centred advocates and researchers, and their many organisations which are now focused to varying degrees on the drive for more consumer focus and design in health care.

When you consider the range of subjects the plenaries and the six discussion streams will cover, this event really is on a scale unprecedented for health consumers on both sides of the Tasman.

As this is the first time we have partnered with New Zealand it is also a special if somewhat belated event given that our two nations share many health exchanges through both government and professional forums. As well there will be speakers from Canada, the United Kingdom and Denmark.

A feature will be an event that really will show off the strength of consumer-centred experience and leadership. The Big Idea session to be presented by the ABC's Ellen Fanning will show in brief videos five innovative ideas to improve the health system. This will be followed by conversations with each of the video creators, whose ideas range from reforms to maternity care arrangements that give women more choice about childbirth, a concept for more comprehensive community-centred care, a proposal for digital enhancement of mental health care, and services for home-bound people living with disability.

All of these ideas flow from grass roots experience. They don't necessarily need to cost a fortune. They are the creations of thinking consumers which is what *#ShiftingGearsSummit* is all about.

**Leanne Wells**  
Chief Executive Officer



**CHF Summit 2021 - Shifting Gears**



Successful health strategies, policies, research and programs depend on consumer's involvement at each stage of development.

**Learn more about successful strategies to include consumers in healthcare design**

[CHF SUMMIT WEBSITE](#)

**18 - 19 March 2021**

CHF Summit 2021: Shifting Gears will draw together consumers and other leaders from the health sector to explore the latest research and developments which drive health towards a consumer-centred culture.

**Develop your skills as a consumer advocate**

*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.*

[REGISTER FOR THE SUMMIT](#)



[SEE THE PROGRAM](#)



# My Health Record

## A note about My Health Record and your COVID-19 Vax

- The My Health Record system will be upgraded on Friday 19 March 2021
- You can still use My Health Record during the upgrade
- After the upgrade, you will notice changes to SMS and email notifications and how you view and manage your contact information
- You can opt in to receive notifications about changes to immunisation information in My Health Record. If you select this option, an alert will be sent when your second COVID-19 vaccine is overdue

If you have any questions about the release, email [StakeholderEngagement@digitalhealth.gov.au](mailto:StakeholderEngagement@digitalhealth.gov.au)

MY HEALTH RECORD



## Webinars from ACSQHC

The Australian Commission for Safety and Quality in Health Care have produced a series of webinars over recent weeks. The Program series archives make the webinars available for public viewing

February's topic was led by Professor Anne Duggan, and Professor Debora Picone AO, on why healthcare varies across the country and what can be done to improve services. There's also a webinar on the NSQHS National Standards which might be of interest to people working on this project with the Commission.

VIEW THE WEBINARS

CHF member survey and consumer advocate webinar series



## CHF Consumer support - what would you like to see?

CHF is creating a new webinar series, **Consumer Link**, to support consumer advocates who are participants in CHF's consumer representatives program.

The webinars will be informational and educational and provide support to the CHF pool of consumer advocates on varying topics and cater for different levels of experience.

We need you to tell us what you would like to hear about to support you in your consumer advocacy work. This short survey asks about your preferences and topics of interest. Your responses will also help us consider other support we can provide in the medium to longer term.

The survey is expected to take up to 5 minutes of your time. It **closes** on Friday 26 March 2021 and the first **Consumer Link** webinar is scheduled for 7 April 2021.

[TAKE THE SURVEY](#)

## Consultations

### Increasing public awareness of pain management – be part of the scoping study and video

We are looking for people who live with chronic pain (not cancer), or who are carers of people living with chronic pain, to test messages and review video content about pain management.

We are interested in whether or not you (or the person you have cared for) has used opioids, and your experiences with opioids or with other ways of managing pain.

Some consumers will be invited to share their experiences in the series of videos being produced to increase awareness about pain management.

### Details

You must be available for the scoping meeting on 23 March. Videos will be filmed in Sydney and if selected, participants will be paid for your time.

For further information contact CHF Policy Director, **Jo Root**, — email: [J.Root@chf.org.au](mailto:J.Root@chf.org.au)

[EMAIL JO ROOT](mailto:J.Root@chf.org.au)

## Preventive Health Strategy consultation

The Government has released a [consultation paper](#) on the Development of the National Preventive Health Strategy.

There will be a consultation with members at 2 pm on Thursday 8 April, to inform the CHF response to the paper.

We encourage members and consumers to [answer the survey](#).

Contact **Tammy Wolffs**, for more information and to register for the consultation — email: [t.wolffs@chf.org.au](mailto:t.wolffs@chf.org.au)

EMAIL TAMMY WOLFFS

## New information about the National Cervical Cancer Screening Program

New letters and other information are being developed to encourage women to get tested for cervical cancer and CHF is organising. We are inviting women aged 23 years or over to take part in a focus group to give feedback on the drafts.

### Details

**Dates:** 22 to 25 March

**Duration:** 1.5 hours approximately

**Platform:** Zoom

If successful you will be paid for your time. Contact **Tammy Wolffs**, for more information and to register for the consultation — email: [t.wolffs@chf.org.au](mailto:t.wolffs@chf.org.au)

EMAIL TAMMY WOLFFS

## Consultation on product standard for vaping - TGA

The **Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA)** is conducting a public consultation on a proposed product standard for vaporiser nicotine products, such as nicotine-containing vape liquids, e-liquids and e-juices.

The consultation asks about potential quality and safety requirements for vaporiser nicotine products that have not been approved by the TGA, covering topics such as labelling, packaging and prohibited ingredients. The consultation will close on **31 March 2021**.

The consultation paper is at [Consultation Hub](#).

CHF will be responding so you can send thoughts through to **Jo Root, Policy Director**, at [Jo.Root@chf.org.au](mailto:Jo.Root@chf.org.au) or you can put in your own submission.

EMAIL JO ROOT

Webinars



# CHF Talks

**CHF**  
Consumers Health  
Forum of Australia

Consumers shaping health  
WEBINAR SERIES



## What are “living guidelines” and how are consumers involved?

*Presentation and panel discussion featuring the National COVID-19 Clinical Evidence Taskforce.*

The National COVID-19 Clinical Evidence Taskforce brings together 32 peak health professional bodies from across Australia.

Each week, more than 250 Taskforce contributors work together to find new research and quickly incorporate that research into national, evidence-based guidelines for the clinical care of Australians with COVID-19.

These are living guidelines, updated with the latest global research in near real-time with trusted, up-to-the minute advice to clinicians providing frontline care. Hear from the team on the findings from this project.

**When:** 27 April 2021

**Time:** 12 to 1 pm

[REGISTER](#)

## Australia's Health Panel



## New survey from Australia's Health Panel's Health Panel

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

## Loneliness

Loneliness has been shown to be linked to poor physical and mental health, and poor personal wellbeing, leading to adverse effects on communities. It is clearly a significant issue for consumers. As a result, CHF recognises that addressing loneliness is critical to improving the health and wellbeing and so we are pleased to have initiated this discussion and to be partnering with a community of experts to move this issue forward.

The March 2021 Australia's Health Panel survey is a chance for you to share your perspectives on loneliness in Australia, following the [release of the final report](#) from the Loneliness Thought Leadership Roundtable in 2020.

To share your views about loneliness, 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.

See [Australia's Health Panel results](#)

[JOIN AUSTRALIA'S HEALTH PANEL](#)

## Media releases and editorial

### [Mental health reports provide a template for the nation](#)

*The report of the Royal Commission into Victoria's Mental Health System aligns in many ways with the recent report of the Productivity Commission, strengthening the impetus for more effective and equitable care and support Australia-wide ...* [MEDIA RELEASE: 04 MAR 2021](#)

### [Helping young people get the best of health](#)

*Health concession cards to help young people afford health care is one of several steps urged by a report for the ...* [MEDIA RELEASE: 03 MAR 2021](#)

### [Aged care needs radical overhaul](#)

*The Federal Government must show it is serious about overhauling the shameful state of aged care by immediately committing to four central challenges: substantially lift funding, establish rigorous quality and safety standards, introduce total system transparency and improve health care ...* [MEDIA RELEASE: 02 MAR 2021](#)

[All Media Releases and editorial](#)

## Participate in research





## Join Us - call for research stories

Join Us is the national health research register, a [simple online register](#) that helps researchers prevent, treat and find cures for disease.

The George Institute is now looking for consumers who have participated in health or medical research to share their stories about the benefits and importance of participating in such research activities. If you would like to share your experiences please contact Angela Hehir at [ahehir@georgeinstitute.org.au](mailto:ahehir@georgeinstitute.org.au)

JOIN US REGISTRY

## CHF Journal - Health Voices



### COVID and the plague of ideas

Australians' experience with COVID-19 has stimulated more active consumer and community involvement in health care decision-making. Authors in the November edition of *Health Voices* covered a range of diverse development propelled by the forces of the epidemic.

Health Voices  
Issue 27 | Nov 2020

READ MOIRE

## Consumer program



## Representative appointments

### Congratulations to:

**Joanne Muller**, nominated to the DoH - The Nursing and Midwifery Strategic Reference Group (NMSRG)

**Renza Scibilia, Judi Walker, Lara Pullin** and **Roxanne MacDonald**, selected as consumer rapporteurs at the CHF Summit 2021: Shifting Gears

## Consumer Reports

CHF expects and appreciates reports from CHF nominated consumers. These reports help keep CHF informed of consumer work.

Consumer reports can be made online, via email, mail or phone. CHF thanks the following consumers for keeping us up to date on their work.

**Debra Letica,**

NPS MedicineWise - Deprescribing Expert Advisory Group event

### Consumer representative vacancies



CHF nominates consumer representatives to high level committees and those related to funded priority areas. Calls for nominations are made via *Health Update* 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 vacancies 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 [g.martin@chf.org.au](mailto:g.martin@chf.org.au).

### Other consumer opportunities

CHF also advertises consumer opportunities that we do not provide nominations for. The opportunities listed below are for members to work directly with stakeholders and apply to sit on committees that are of interest.

CHF checks that consumer participation is supported with coverage of travel costs and sitting fees before advertising these opportunities.

### Recognition of Medical Specialties Review Panels

*Australian Medical Council (AMC)*

The AMC is looking to establish a pool of reviewers for Recognition Review Panels to undertake detailed (Stage 2) analysis of cases for recognition of medical specialties.

If you have questions, contact Karen Rocca, Manager, Accreditation Projects and Process Development, at [recognition@amc.org.au](mailto:recognition@amc.org.au) or phone: 02 6270 9760.

*Applications close COB Friday 9 April 2021*

[MORE INFORMATION](#)

[SEE ALL CONSUMER REP OPPORTUNITES](#)

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](mailto:g.martin@chf.org.au).

[BECOME A MEMBER](#)



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