

# COMMUNITY PHARMACY IN HEALTH CARE HOMES TRIAL PROGRAM

## What is the Community Pharmacy in Health Care Homes Trial Program?

The Community Pharmacy in Health Care Homes Trial Program is an initiative funded under the 6th Community Pharmacy Agreement.

The purpose of this trial is to provide medication-based information and support to all participating Health Care Home GPs and Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services (ACCHS) through the development of a patient centered Medication Management Plan (MMP) that is regularly reviewed with the patient and Health Care Home team and uploaded to the patients Shared Care Plan.

The Medication Management Plan includes a full medication reconciliation along with collaborative goal setting that includes the patient and the Health Care Home team.

After the initial consultation the community pharmacy will meet with the patient regularly to update changes to the MMP ensuring the patient's goals are being achieved to maximise continuity of care.

## Which pharmacies are involved in the Community Pharmacy in Health Care Homes Trial?

All community pharmacies that meet the participation criteria are eligible to support the Community Pharmacy in Health Care Homes Trial, however they must be registered before delivering the service.

## What are the benefits of the Community Pharmacy in Health Care Homes Trial Program?

- Most chronic condition patients have long established relationships with their local community pharmacy and their local pharmacist.
- On average, an Australian visits a pharmacy 14 times per year. This is much higher, often several times a week, for patients with chronic illnesses. These chronic condition patients have an extremely high level of trust in their regular pharmacist and the pharmacy staff in their local community pharmacy.
- Community pharmacies are the most accessible health locations in primary care, many operating for extended hours and on the weekends.

- Accessibility of community pharmacies, when other health professionals may not be available, highlights their value as core to success of the Health Care Homes Trial Program.
- Community pharmacists are the medication experts and are highly skilled in ensuring compliance and adherence to medication regimens.
- Pharmacists can help patients to achieve Quality Use of Medicines – one of the central objectives of Australia's National Medicines Policy.
- The Community Pharmacy in Health Care Homes Trial provides additional services to ALL Tier 2 and 3 Health Care Homes patients including DAAs, screening and regular testing such as blood pressure, blood glucose, asthma, COPD etc.

## How do I enroll our Health Care Homes patients in the Community Pharmacy in Health Care Homes Trial?

1. Ask your patient who their preferred community pharmacy is
2. Contact the community pharmacy and request their email address and contact person
  - If the community pharmacy is unaware of the Community Pharmacy in Health Care Homes Trial, they can contact the Pharmacy Guild for more information including registration and access to full support, training and resources.
3. Forward the patient's Shared Care Plan invitation to the nominated email address of that community pharmacy.

## We have engaged a Practice Pharmacist as part of a separate Trial. Can we still participate in the Community Pharmacy Trial?

- Yes you can – ensure that your Practice Pharmacist makes sure that all community pharmacy related communication and activity (this includes requests for patient dispense data) is coordinated through the patient's SCP software. This will enable the community pharmacy to contribute as part of the patient's Care Team and enable both trials to work in alignment for the patient's benefit.

## Where can I find more information?

For more information you can contact your Health Care Homes Trial PHN Facilitator or email [healthcarehomes@6cpa.com.au](mailto:healthcarehomes@6cpa.com.au)

Additional information and resources including the Program Rules and Guidelines are available on the 6th Community Pharmacy Agreement website [6CPA.com.au](http://6CPA.com.au) under the Medication Management Programs section.