



## NCOSS Fact sheet: COAG Heads of Agreement on National Health Reform, 13 February 2011

### Public Hospitals

- Commonwealth to fund **50% of the efficient growth** in public hospital service costs, with a guaranteed contribution of no less than \$16.4 billion from 2014-15 to 2019-20.
- State and Commonwealth Governments to transfer all hospital funding into a **single national pool** administered by an independent national body from 1 July 2012.
- Public hospitals funded on the basis of activity, calculated on the nationally **efficient price for service** set by an Independent Hospital Pricing Authority. Block funding retained for small regional/rural hospitals.\*
- **Local Health Networks** to be the operational managers of a small number of hospitals and increase local decision-making. Overseen by a Governing Council and Chief Executive.\*
- States retain lead role as public hospital **systems managers**, including state-wide policy, planning, purchasing, and performance.\*

### Primary Health Care

- Medicare Locals responsible for **coordinating and integrating primary health care** services in local communities. Initial focus on access to **after-hours GP services**.\*
- **More Medicare Locals** and **sooner**. Empowered with flexible funding over time.
- States have significant role in **delivery** of primary health care services\* and lead role in public health.

### Performance standards and reporting

- **National performance standards** and performance reports as part of a Performance and Accountability Framework.\*
- Greater role for the **Australian Commission on Quality and Safety in Health Care** (ACQSHC) in monitoring and implementing clinical standards.
- **National Performance Authority** to report on hospital and primary health service performance at the local level.\*
- Performance information published on the **MyHospitals** website.

### Other

- Transfer of full responsibility for **aged care** to Commonwealth.\*
- Further reforms in **aged care, mental health and dental health**.
- New **National Health Reform Agreement** to be signed by 1 July 2011.

Access the Heads of Agreement on National Health Reform at:

[http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/resources/Initiatives/healthreform/pdf/heads\\_of\\_agreement.pdf](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/resources/Initiatives/healthreform/pdf/heads_of_agreement.pdf)

(\* These provisions are consistent with the original [National Health and Hospital \(NHHN\) Agreement](#))