



Baker IDI
HEART & DIABETES INSTITUTE

Submission for the Inquiry into Primary Health and Aged Care Service Measures

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TO:

The Secretary

Legislative Council on Economy and Infrastructure Committee

Parliament House

Spring Street

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Cardiovascular Disease

- Leading cause of death and disability.
- Well defined and proven preventative and ameliorative strategies.
- Considerable individual and societal goes from universal implementation of such strategies.

What is Needed to Achieve this I-Society

- Define the problem – who's at risk, to what extent, where are they?
- Map available resources (medical, paramedical, etc)
- Where needed re-align resources and need. Specify shortfalls.

What is Needed to Achieve This II - Individual

- Institute appropriate patient management.
- Monitor efficacy of intervention.

This Needs:- I

- Patient/client – Health Professional Interaction (but may not need to be direct).
- Timely accurate and comprehensive information for individual patients (clients).

This Needs:- II

Individual health care data which is:

- Comprehensive
- Readily available
- Contemporary
- Secure (private).

The Current Situation

Extensive information available (eg Medicare/ PBS, etc) but

- Patchy
- Disconnected
- Primary purpose generally not patient care.

The Way Forward

- Acceptance of the Benefits of a comprehensive integrated accessible health record in primary care.
- Identification of the essential requisite information to be included.
- Development of individual prospective health care plans (primary care is most logical place for this).

The Benefits

- Health maintenance / improved illness outcomes.
- Resource efficiency.
- Research.

Impediments

- Resource allocation.
- Agreement from extant information holders/‘owner’.
- Agreement on what information needs to be included.
- Privacy.

Benefits for Cardiovascular Research

These would be legion but include:

- Novel and/or improved epidemiological studies.
- Improved ability to conduct cost/benefit analysis.
- Ability to conduct health system research.
- Resource for discovery research (eg biormakers/novel therapies).