

# Victorian Implementation Plan

## NATIONAL PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT ON TREATING MORE PUBLIC DENTAL PATIENTS

### PART 1: PRELIMINARIES

1. This Implementation Plan is a schedule to the National Partnership Agreement on Treating More Public Dental Patients and should be read in conjunction with that Agreement. The objective of this National Partnership is to alleviate pressure on public dental waiting lists with a particular focus on Indigenous patients, patients at high risk of, or from, major oral health problems and those from rural areas.
2. This initiative provides Victoria with funding of up to \$85.4 million, for the period from the commencement of this Implementation Plan to 31 December 2015, to provide 101,342 Dental Weighted Activity Units (DWAUs), equivalent to treatment for approximately 110,000 people.
3. Victoria will deliver this additional public dental service activity through the implementation of a number of initiatives outlined in this plan.

### PART 2: TERMS OF THIS IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

4. This Implementation Plan will commence as soon as it is agreed between the Commonwealth of Australia, represented by the Hon Tanya Plibersek MP, Minister for Health, and the State of Victoria, represented by the Hon David Davis MP, Minister for Health.
5. As a schedule to the National Partnership Agreement on Treating More Public Dental Patients, the purpose of this Implementation Plan is to provide the public with an indication of how the reform is intended to be delivered and demonstrate Victoria's capacity to achieve the outcomes of the National Partnership.
6. This Implementation Plan will cease on completion or termination of the National Partnership, including the acceptance of final performance reporting and processing of final payments against performance benchmarks or milestones.
7. This Implementation Plan may be varied by written agreement between the Commonwealth and State Ministers responsible for it under the overarching National Partnership.
8. The Parties to this Implementation Plan do not intend any of the provisions to be legally enforceable. However, that does not lessen the Parties' commitment to the plan and its full implementation.

## PART 3: STRATEGY FOR VICTORIA'S IMPLEMENTATION

### Project information

9. Victoria's funding allocation of up to \$85.4 million will be targeted at the provision of additional output (service delivery).
10. Victoria will provide an additional 101,342 DWAUs (approximately 110,000 people) by March 2015. The additional services will be provided through public dental clinics and private dentists. A particular focus will given to:
  - services to Aboriginal people;
  - services to Refugees and Asylum seekers
  - services to growth corridors with high demand; and
  - services to areas with long waiting lists
11. Recent Victorian initiatives including the introduction of a new data set, the development of improved models of care, and strategies to improve efficiencies and throughput will continue, and support the objectives and delivery of the NPA.
12. The Victorian Government is committed to the ongoing improvement of the public dental system and has introduced a number of key initiatives to support this improvement. These include provision of more graduate opportunities for dental clinicians within the public sector, assistance with the relocation of dental clinicians to rural areas, and better access to services in regional and country Victoria through investment in mobile clinics.
13. Additional services in the public sector will be provided using a number of strategies, including extended operating hours and/or recruiting additional contract staff across public dental clinics for the duration of the NPA.
14. The Commonwealth funded Voluntary Dental Graduate Year Program (VDGYP) commenced in January 2013. In 2013, 50 graduates have been selected to participate in the program across Australia. Victoria currently has 15 graduates that will be placed in 12 participating agencies throughout rural and metropolitan Victoria.
15. Access to services in regional areas will also be improved through the utilisation of mobile clinics.
16. Victoria will engage the private sector through its existing voucher schemes – the Victorian General Dental Scheme (VGDS), Victorian Emergency Dental Scheme (VEDS) and Victorian Denture Scheme (VDS). The voucher schemes engage private dentists and dental prosthetists to provide mainly adult dental services on a fee for service basis. The VGDS and the VDS will be particularly important in rural areas in providing timely treatment.
17. Dental providers who have previously participated in the Chronic Disease Dental Scheme may now have greater capacity to participate in the Victorian voucher schemes. The Australian Dental Association (ADA) Victorian Branch and the Australian Dental Prosthetists Association (Victoria) will be engaged to support the proposed increase in voucher usage.
18. The NPA has identified Aboriginal clients as a priority. Victoria will improve access to public dental services to eligible Aboriginal people through direct funding to the Victorian Aboriginal Health Service (VAHS) and/or other ACCHOs.

19. In Victoria, refugees and asylum seekers have priority access to public dental care. NPA funding will be used to respond to the increasing needs of this vulnerable group. This will compliment the recent State Budget initiative for refugees that will increase capacity in the Victorian healthcare system, particularly community-based health, to ensure timely consultation and preventative care to meet the health and mental health care needs of this group.
20. The NPA, together with Victoria's existing investment in dental services will provide additional funding to language services, improve service access through mobile dental services and provide specialist services in rural and regional areas.

### Estimated costs

21. The maximum financial contribution to be provided by the Commonwealth for the project to the jurisdiction is \$85.4 million payable in accordance with milestones and performance benchmarks set out in Part 5 of the National Partnership Agreement. All payments are exclusive of GST.
22. The estimated overall budget (exclusive of GST) is set out in Table 1. The budget is indicative only and Victoria retains the flexibility to move funds between components and/or years, as long as outcomes are not affected. The Commonwealth contribution can only be moved between years with the agreement of the Commonwealth.

Table 1: Estimated financial contributions

(\$ million)	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total
Additional services	17.2	38.5	29.7	85.4
Total estimated budget	17.2	38.5	29.7	85.4
less estimated Commonwealth contribution equals estimated balance of non-Commonwealth contributions	17.2	38.5	29.7	85.4
Commonwealth own purpose expense				
<b>Total Commonwealth contribution</b>	<b>17.2</b>	<b>38.5</b>	<b>29.7</b>	<b>85.4</b>

## Program logic

23. Funding will be targeted at treating additional people with a focus on the following:
- Priority access clients
  - Areas of high demand and high need
  - Areas with long waiting lists
24. Over the life of the Agreement, service delivery will be provided through public dental clinics and the private sector through existing voucher schemes. The final public/private split will depend on the capacity of existing public clinics, the ability to recruit additional staff, and the capacity and level of engagement of private providers.

## Risk management

25. A risk management plan is in place. Risks have been actively identified, entered into a risk log and categorised in terms of impact and likelihood.

## Relevant State or Territory Context

26. In Victoria, public dental services are provided to children<sup>1</sup> and eligible adults. Dental Health Services Victoria (DHSV) is funded to deliver public dental care to eligible Victorians. DHSV will manage and coordinate the delivery of services through the Royal Dental Hospital Melbourne and approximately 55 health services (hospitals and community health services) across Victoria. Appendix 1 provides a list of all public providers.
27. General, denture and specialist care can be accessed through the public dental system. Care is delivered in fixed or mobile clinics and there are outreach services to schools, supported residential services and residential aged care facilities.
28. People who have priority access to dental care must be offered the next available appointment for general care and must not be placed on the general care wait list. Where the person has denture care needs, they would be offered the next available appointment for denture care or placed on the priority denture waiting list, where applicable.
29. The following groups have priority access to care:
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders
  - Children and Young People
  - Homeless people and people at risk of homelessness
  - Pregnant women
  - Refugees and Asylum Seekers
  - Registered clients of mental health and disability services, supported by a letter of recommendation from their case manager or staff of special developmental schools

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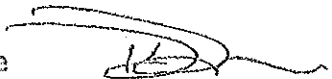
<sup>1</sup> Public dental services are provided to all children aged 0-12 years and young people aged 13-17 years who are health care or pensioner concession card holders or dependants of concession card holders.

30. All other eligible people seeking routine general and denture care are placed on a wait list. Eligible people seeking urgent care are assessed, triaged and managed using an emergency demand management strategy.

**Sign off**

The Parties have confirmed their commitment to this agreement as follows:

Signature



Date

13, 5, 2013

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By Victoria Minister for Health

Signature



Date

22-5-13

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By Commonwealth Minister for Health

# Location of public dental services across Victoria

health

May 2016

Appendix 1

## Metropolitan clinics

Name	Location
Banyule Community Health	WEST HEIDELBERG
Bentleigh Bayside Community Health	BENTLEIGH EAST
Central Bayside Community Health Services	PARKDALE
Darebin Community Health Service	EAST RESERVOIR NORTHCOTE PRESTON (PANCH)
Dianella Community Health	BROADMEADOWS CRAIGIEBURN
Djerriwarrh Health Service	MELTON SOUTH
Doutta Galla Community Health Service	NIDDRIE KENSINGTON
EACH	RINGWOOD EAST
Inner East Community Health Service	ASHBURTON
Inner South Community Health Service	PRAHRAN SOUTH MELBOURNE
Inspiro Community Health (ex Ranges Community Health)	LILYDALE
ISIS Primary Care	ALTONA MEADOWS HOPPERS CROSSING ST ALBANS
Knox Community Health Service	FERNTREE GULLY
Merri Community Health Services	BRUNSWICK
MonashLink Community Health Service	CLAYTON
Nillumbik Community Health Service	ELTHAM
North Richmond Community Health	FITZROY NORTH RICHMOND
Peninsula Health	FRANKSTON HASTINGS ROSEBUD
Plenty Valley Community Health	EPPING WHITTLESEA
Monash Health	BERWICK CHELTENHAM CRANBOURNE DANDENONG DANDENONG (Hospital) PACKENHAM SPRINGVALE
Sunbury Community Health Centre	SUNBURY
The Royal Children's Hospital	PARKVILLE
The Royal Dental Hospital of Melbourne	CARLTON
Western Region Health Centre	FOOTSCRAY (Geelong Road) FOOTSCRAY (Palsley Street)
Whitehorse Community Health Service	BOX HILL

## Regional clinics

Name	Location
Albury Wodonga Health	WODONGA
Bairnsdale Regional Health Service	BAIRNSDALE
Ballarat Health Services	BALLARAT
Barwon Health	BELMONT CORIO NEWCOMB BELL PARK (Wathaurong Aboriginal Cooperative)
Bass Coast Regional Health	WONTHAGGI
Bellarine Community Health	POINT LONSDALE
Bendigo Health Care Group	BENDIGO
Boort District Health	BOORT
Central Gippsland Health Service	SALE
Colac Area Health	COLAC
East Grampians Health Service	ARARAT
East Wimmera Health Service	ST ARNAUD
Echuca Regional Health	ECHUCA
Edenhope and District Memorial Hospital	EDENHOPE
Goulburn Valley Health	SHEPPARTON
Hepburn Health Service	CRESWICK DAYLESFORD
Latrobe Community Health Service	CHURCHILL MOE MORWELL WARRAGUL
Mallee Track Health and Community Service	OUYEN
Maryborough District Health Service	MARYBOROUGH
Northeast Health	BENALLA WANGARATTA
Omeo District Health	OMEQ
Orbost Regional Health	ORBOST
Portland District Health	PORTLAND
Rumbalara Aboriginal Cooperative	MOOROOPNA
Seymour District Memorial Hospital	SEYMOUR
South West Healthcare	WARRNAMBOOL
Sunraysia Community Health Services	MILDURA
Swan Hill District Health	SWAN HILL
West Wimmera Health Service	NHILL
Western District Health Service	HAMILTON
Wimmera Health Care Group	DIMBOOLA HORSHAM