

16 March 2017

Sydney, Australia

Communique

Researchers, policymakers, practitioners and consumers met today in Sydney, Australia to formally launch the work program of the new NHMRC Partnership Centre for Health System Sustainability. Participants at the Symposium discussed strategies to create a more sustainable health system and outlined initial plans for research in three areas: using analytics, technology and shared data; reducing waste and low-value care; and promoting better value for the health dollar.

To co-produce the research and provide demonstrated improvements to care delivered to all Australians, this collaboration of 17 lead investigators, 20 expert advisors and over 40 system implementation partners from around the country have joined forces to craft interventions that will significantly improve the sustainability of Australia's health system.

At this inaugural Symposium we provided an opportunity for academic and system partners, advisers and funders to consider the planned work of the Centre, and reflect on potential system test sites and levers that may enhance collaboration and successful uptake of promising research findings.

Some key considerations of Partnership Centre participants included the need to change clinical behaviour as a key way to improve care delivery systems; and the importance of creating incentives to make change happen. The Partnership Centre will conduct projects ranging from specific, local demonstrations through to large-scale projects involving collaboration across industry, researchers and funders. We explicitly agreed that the involvement of consumers is a pivotal mechanism to forge sustainable systems change.

Key contacts involved in the NHMRC Partnership Centre in Health System Sustainability

Designated System-Based Investigators

Professor Christine Bennett, AO – University of Notre Dame, Australia

Ms Kim McClymont – NSW Health

Ms Annette Schmiede – Bupa Health Foundation

System Lead Investigators

Dr Teresa Anderson – Sydney Local Health District and Sydney Health Partners

Professor Helena Teede – Monash University and Monash Partners

Ms Leanne Wells – Consumers Health Forum of Australia

Professor Leonard Gray – University of Queensland

Dr Trent Yeend – Independent Hospital Pricing Authority

Professor Robyn Ward, AM – University of Queensland

Research Lead Investigators

Professor Paul Glasziou – Bond University

Professor Anthony Scott – University of Melbourne

Professor Jonathan Karnon – University of Adelaide

Professor Rachelle Buchbinder – Monash University and Cabrini Institute

Professor Johanna Westbrook – Australian Institute of Health Innovation

Professor Enrico Coiera – Australian Institute of Health Innovation

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