



12 November, 2010

Diabetes pilot sensible policy: AGPN

The planning and funding for diabetes care in Australia is set to improve now that the Federal Government has recognised the need to pilot a coordinated care program to ensure it meets the needs of doctors and patients.

The Australian General Practice Network (AGPN) CEO David Butt said the \$30.2m over three to four years for the pilot will test the validity and effectiveness of the care plan approach which has to ensure the best outcomes for patients with diabetes.

“The Minister has quite rightly responded to the concerns of the medical profession and diabetes experts across Australia that the proposed plan for treating and managing diabetes had flaws,” Mr Butt said.

“By collecting data on patient and clinical outcomes and following consultation with the Diabetes Advisory Group, the right decisions and directions can then determine the future of diabetes care in Australia,” he said.

“Given the primary health care reforms on offer, a coordinated care trial such as this has the potential to place Australia as a world leader in managing this chronic disease.

“As the Divisions of General Practice evolve into Primary Health Care Organisations (PHCOs) or Medicare Locals as of July 2011, AGPN encourages Divisions to consider their role and opportunity to take on this pilot program for the benefit of their local community,” Mr Butt said.

Media contact: Karen Warner, AGPN Media Adviser on 02 6228 0819/0438 179 520