

29 May 2018

Building a primary care strategy in north western Melbourne



Not missing a beat - Family health check up with local GP – picture by Ian Currie.

North Western Melbourne Primary Health Network (NWMPHN) is engaging with primary health care providers to design and develop our primary care engagement, leadership and development strategy.

This is a comprehensive strategy for engaging and building on the existing capabilities of primary care providers and teams across the north western region of Melbourne to deliver the highest quality person-centered, and integrated care. This strategy, and the future model for engagement, will be informed by international evidence and health reforms, including the Patient Centered Medical Home (PCMH) clinical model.

NWMPHN have commissioned Siggins Miller to develop the strategy through a process of engagement and consultation. Siggins Miller is an experienced Australian consultancy company providing services for more than 20 years in health care including evaluation; organisation, program and system development; and program monitoring and review. The Siggins Miller project team includes Professor Mel Miller (Director) and Mr Anthony Elliott (Senior Associate Director). General Practitioner interviews will be led by GPs from the Siggins Miller Team, Dr Mary Cohn or Dr Beres Wenck.

Primary health care providers will have opportunities to participate and contribute between the **11th of June and the 27th of July 2018** through:

- scheduled face to face or telephone interviews in your practice individually, or with your practice team;
- attending one of three focus group sessions; or
- completing an online survey.

We may also ask for your input if you attend one of our usual network meetings or professional development events.

The venues for the focus groups are being finalised and will be shared by Siggins Miller in the coming weeks. Please note, spaces to attend the focus group sessions will be limited due to the venue size.

General practitioners, allied health professionals, dentists and pharmacists may be remunerated for up to 45 minutes of their time for participation in scheduled face to face interviews or focus group sessions.

Siggins Miller may contact you by phone in the coming weeks to discuss your and your extended networks' involvement and participation in the consultation process.

In the meantime, should you have any questions about the consultation, or to register your interest in attending a focus group or arrange an interview please contact Siggins Miller by email engagement@sigginsmiller.com.au or call toll-free on **1800 940 405**.

Please note that the 1800 number provided is a message bank service in which you can leave your inquiry, a senior Siggins Miller staff member will endeavour to return your call within 72 hours.

As the target audience of the final strategy, it is essential that primary health care providers inform the strategy development. We are seeking input from a wide range of stakeholders including general practitioners; allied health; pharmacists; dentists; aboriginal health workers; primary care nurses and practice managers to ensure the strategy is:

- valued and valuable to primary care services whether they be long-term stakeholders or newly engaged;
- effective in terms of providing real (and 'the right') support, information and learning opportunities;
- efficient in terms of staff time, effort, and value for money;
- aligned with NWMPHN's role as a commissioning organisation;
- focused on achieving outcomes including better patient outcomes through delivery of quality primary health care for the North Western Melbourne region.

We look forward to you shaping the future of primary health care with us.

North-Western Melbourne PHN and Siggins Miller

Enquiries:

Siggins Miller: For questions about the consultation, or to register your interest, email engagement@sigginsmiller.com.au or call toll-free on **1800 940 405**.

Website: www.nwmpnh.org.au

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ABOUT PHNs

Funded by the Commonwealth Department of Health, PHNs began operation on 1 July 2015 and are responsible for coordinating primary health care and facilitating improved health outcomes in their local community. Melbourne Primary Care Network operates the North Western Melbourne PHN.

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We acknowledge the peoples of the Kulin nation as the Traditional Owners of the land on which our work in the community takes place. We pay our respects to their Elders past and present.



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