

HEALTH INDUSTRY CHARTER

Preamble

The Health Industry comprises service providers from both the public and private sectors. The private sector providers comprise private for profit and charitable or not for profit providers. In general terms, the Health Industry can be divided into 6 key components:

- Public Sector (Community Services and Hospitals)
- General Practice
- Private Hospital Sector
- Health Fund Sector
- Other private providers such as; Optometry, Dentistry, Pharmacy
- Non-government or charitable institutions

South Australia's Health Care Plan 2007-2016 has been developed by the State Government to meet the increasing demands of both current and future health care needs.

The plan outlines a strategy for the realignment of some clinical services, for the development of a workforce plan to address future workforce shortages and for the investment in information systems and capital infrastructure.

The plan also identifies the need for the public and private sectors to work more closely together.

Through the implementation of the SA Health Care Plan we will see:

- an increased focus on primary health care; keeping South Australians healthy and out of hospital
- new investment in major hospitals and better coordinated hospital services
- prevention of illness through improving our lifestyles
- a responsive workforce for the future
- reduced pressure on emergency departments
- improved management of chronic diseases

The State Government is committed to maintaining a high quality health system for all South Australians. Reforming our current health care system requires resolute and targeted planning to ensure South Australia has a streamlined health system that effectively responds to the health needs of the whole community.

SA Health has a commitment to work cooperatively with all agencies involved directly or indirectly in the provision of health services, including the private sector and the community. A primary feature of the success of the transformation of our health system will be a collaborative effort between the public and private sectors.

With the cooperative responsibility of implementing better governance, services and systems of support in our health system; common views facilitating both consistency and autonomy in public and private organisations,

should be adopted. This should incorporate the best possible practices in the delivery of health services.

This *Health Industry Charter* aims to establish the basis for developing closer relationships across the health industry.

Objective

The objectives of the *Health Industry Charter* are to:

- Provide an understanding across the health industry of the specific issues facing the industry
- Establish an effective framework for constructive communication and fulfilment of outcomes through appropriate forums to improve the quality of health care for all South Australians
- Provide a common platform whereby all parties are provided with equal opportunity to participate and contribute to issues regarding developments in health sector planning, coordination and implementation; working cooperatively for the collective good of all South Australians

Values

With the aim of reinforcing continued positive engagement, signatories to the *SA Health Industry Charter* should actively seek to:

- Recognise that engagement is a two-way process, and that successful partnerships are reliant on a strong and supportive membership in order to bring about change
- Value and respect the differences and diversity of organisations and individuals and respond to constructive input
- Collaborate, keeping foremost the primary objective of providing high quality, accessible health services to all South Australians.

Roles and Responsibilities

Roles and responsibilities of the signatories to the *Health Industry Charter* are to:

- Facilitate and participate in effective and suitable means of consultation
- Have the experience and independence to innovate and initiate action, to achieve agreed outcomes
- Provide all relevant information and resources to assist in comprehensive engagement in project development, policy and advocacy processes
- Participate in the development and evaluation of policy, program and service settings

- Provide advice regarding opportunities for collaboration both internal and external to the group for such activities as vaccine promotions, health promotion messages, service planning and the use of technology in the health system
- Search and identify mechanisms that will allow the initiation and promotion of new partnerships
- Be proactive when confronting emerging issues; promote appropriate solutions with consideration to the opinion and standing of individual members and the group as a whole
- Offer advice and solutions that will positively influence the recruitment, retention, culture and education of the health workforce in South Australia
- Share knowledge and expertise to confront complex health needs in the community
- Build trust within and across communities, ensuring consumer confidence and well-being
- Be involved and listen to public views in order to promote and build community 'ownership'

Engagement

We will achieve a better future and secure good quality of health and well being for all South Australians by engaging in constructive relationships; supporting knowledge, experience, inquiry and innovation.

Essential to achieving this is:

- Maintaining and improving existing health industry relationships between all parts of the industry including general practitioners, the private hospital sector, the health fund sector, dentistry, pharmacy services, optometry, other non-government organisations and public sector services
- Adopting an ethos of change with the incorporation of new organisations, their ideas and practices

Ratification

This *Health Industry Charter* establishes the basis for ongoing dialogue across the Health Industry. The *Charter* is ratified by the parties listed; who make a commitment to working together for the health of all South Australians.

The Charter will be reviewed every three years.

Signatories

On behalf of SA Health

Hon John Hill MP
Minister for Health

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