



The Future of Chronic Disease in Western Australia

On Friday, 11 March 2016, the House of Representatives Health Committee will conduct a public hearing in Perth to hear about the challenge of chronic disease in Western Australia. The Committee will hear from a range of providers, research organisations and private health insurers as part of its Inquiry into Chronic Disease Prevention and Management in Primary Health Care.

In 2006, in Western Australia, 64 per cent of deaths in persons aged less than 75 years had the potential to be avoided, with the WA Chief Health Officer reporting in 2010 that ischaemic heart disease, lung cancer, colorectal cancer and cerebrovascular disease, along with suicide, were the leading causes of these avoidable deaths. The WA Health Department's *WA Chronic Health Conditions Framework* currently identifies a lack of integration and linkages in services, with this integration essential to securing the future success of chronic disease management in WA.

Chair of the Committee, Steve Irons MP stated: 'The burden of chronic disease in Western Australia is highlighted by the remote nature of a lot of sufferers. I see the challenges every day and chronic disease is an important factor to address in Perth, as well as across the vast range of communities in Western Australia. The role of organisations like the WA Primary Health Alliance, paired with providers such as 360 Health + Community, is crucial to addressing chronic disease and the Committee is eager to hear about these services.'

'Coordination of services and programs is essential to managing chronic conditions in all WA communities, urban, rural or remote. The providers and researchers that drive this improvement will provide essential information to the Committee.' Mr Irons said.

Details of the hearing are:

Friday, 11 March – 9.00 am to 12.30 pm
Committee Room 1, Parliament of Western Australia
Ground Floor, 18-32 Parliament Place, West Perth

A program and further information about the inquiry is available at: www.aph.gov.au/chronicdisease

Audio of the hearing will be broadcast live at: www.aph.gov.au/live

For media comment, please contact Jonathan Martin from the office of Mr Steve Irons MP on 0439 412 855. **Inquiry information:** please contact the committee secretariat on: (02) 6277 4145 or visit the committee's website: www.aph.gov.au/health.