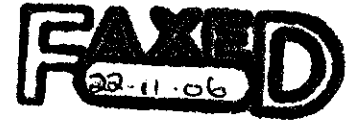




Incorporating November 22, 2006



Health Services

- Adelong
- Albury
- Ardlethan
- Barellan
- Barham
- Barmedman
- Batlow
- Batemans Bay
- Bega
- Berrigan
- Bombala
- Boorowa
- Braidwood
- Coolamon-
- Ganmain
- Coleambally
- Cooma
- Cootamundra
- Corowa
- Crookwell
- Culcairn
- Darlington Point
- Delegate
- Deniliquin
- Eden
- Finley
- Goulburn
- Griffith
- Gundagai
- Gunning
- Hay
- Henty
- Hillston
- Holbrook
- Jerilderie
- Jindabyne
- Junee
- Leeton
- Lockhart
- Mathoura
- Moama
- Moruya
- Moulamein
- Murrumburrah-
- Harden
- Narooma
- Narrandera
- Pambula
- Queanbeyan
- Tarcutta
- Temora
- The Rock
- Tocumwal
- Tooleybuc
- Tumbarumba
- Tumut
- Ungarie
- Urana
- Wagga Wagga
- Weethalle
- West Wyalong
- Yass
- Young

Dr John S Preddy
Consultant Paediatrician
Wagga Specialist Medical Centre
P.O. Box 5520
WAGGA WAGGA NSW 2650

By facsimile: (02) 6925 0132

Dear Dr Preddy,

Re: IPTAAS Funding and Outreach Clinics from Tertiary Institutions

Thank you for your letter and interest in the provision of outreach services to regional communities. As a result of your correspondence, I have conducted an investigation into possible funding sources that may assist in the provision of locally based specialist outreach services.

As you may be aware there are three forms of funding available to health care providers and regional communities to assist patients in accessing speciality health care. As the intention of each of these programs are unique, and their ability to assist in the provision of outreach services differ, they are individually described below for your consideration:

1. IPTAAS (Transport for Health)

IPTAAS is a scheme specifically designed for the provision of transport for patients. As at 17 March, 2006, The Premier of NSW integrated all NSW non-emergency health related transport programs (including IPTAAS) into a single, multi-faceted program (namely Transport for Health).

The Transport for Health program enables patients to access funding to assist in transport and accommodations costs only. I am advised that all IPTAAS funds allocated to Albury/Wodonga region were provided to assist eligible patients with travel and accommodation to access services (including outreach services) based in that area. I understand that previous approaches made to utilise this funding to enable the operation of outreach clinics in this region have been declined. If you have further information on this I would be interested.

2. MSOAP (Medical Specialist Outreach Assistance Program)

MSOAP is a Commonwealth funded program that specifically provides for the provision of outreach speciality services. Funding is allocated to each Area Health Service within NSW and is distributed via a project coordinator each year based upon need and satisfaction of essential criteria. Whilst I am advised that all funds have been allocated for the present financial year, applications may be made for consideration of funds for the year commencing July, 2007. Should you require an application form or any further information, please contact Deborah Gratton, A/MSOAP Coordinator on (02) 6933 9112.

3. GESCHN

Whilst I understand that the majority of project funds have been allocated for this financial year, there may be opportunities for funding for the following year. I understand that an approach will be made to GESCHN for the provision of paediatric speciality services by the GSAHS representatives (Karen Edwards and Simon Milligan) at the next GESCHN meeting scheduled for the 6th of December, 2006. In the meantime, may I encourage you to discuss this opportunity further with Karen Edwards (Director of Clinical Operations Primary and Community Health) on 0419 615 118.

Once again I thank you for your interest in the provision of outreach services to regional communities and encourage you to communicate with the staff mentioned above. Alternatively, if I can provide any further assistance, please show no hesitation in contacting me on (02) 6933 9186.

Yours sincerely,



Dr Joe McGirr
Director of Clinical Operations
Greater Southern Area Health Service

c.c. Karen Edwards – DCO PaCH
Deborah Gratton