

## MDT – Allied Health Grant-Healthy Heart Healthy Mind

### Industry Briefing Questions and Answer Sessions held 6pm 16<sup>th</sup> January 2025.

1. **Question:** What is the purpose of the Healthy Hearts, Healthy Minds program?
  - **Answer:** The program aims to provide nurse-led models of care to tackle chronic conditions from a preventative angle, reduce hospital burden, and support multidisciplinary team working. It targets cardiovascular disease prevention, small GP practices, and vulnerable, lower socioeconomic regions.
  
2. **Question:** How will the practice nurse be funded?
  - **Answer:** The practice nurse will be fully funded through the Commonwealth government's multidisciplinary teams grant. The nurse cannot claim any MBS items while working in the practice and this practice nurse will not qualify for Workforce Incentive Program (WIP) Practice Stream payments.
  
3. **Question:** What are the strategic objectives of COORDINARE?
  - **Answer:** The strategic objectives are accessible care, systemized care, and an activated community. The proposed model aligns with these priorities.
  
4. **Question:** What is required from participating practices?
  - **Answer:** Practices need to commit for three years, have an understanding of the health system and regional challenges, provide preventative interventions for cardiovascular disease, and work with vulnerable populations. They will receive a sign-on allowance of \$15,000 for establishing workflows and orientation.
  
5. **Question:** How will the practice nurse be managed?
  - **Answer:** A third-party provider will manage the practice nurse to avoid HR administration burdens for practices and ensure consistency. If a nurse leaves, the provider will supply a replacement.
  
6. **Question:** What is the timeline for the EOI process?
  - **Answer:** The EOI closes on January 31st, with shortlisting by February 17th, clarification with successful providers by February 28th, and contract issuance around the start of March.
  
7. **Question:** Can practices collaborate on applications?
  - **Answer:** Yes, small practices can consider joint applications to share the nurse resource, especially if they are geographically close.

8. **Question:** What about the accreditation and induction of the nurse?
  - **Answer:** The third-party provider will handle accreditation documentation. Practices need to provide an induction for the nurse to understand practice operations and accreditation requirements for that practice.
  
9. **Question:** Can existing practice nurses be used for the project?
  - **Answer:** This is open for consideration, but practices must demonstrate the nurse's capacity to participate in and complete the project.
  
10. **Question:** How many hours per week does the project require?
  - **Answer:** It depends on the practice caseload and the number of patients in the target cohort. The project aims for a minimum of two days per week of nurse time dedicated to project.
  
11. **Question:** Will patients have to pay a gap fee?
  - **Answer:** Patients will not pay for the nurse's services, but standard billing practices apply for GP consultations. Practices need to consider how the project might fit with their billing models.
  
12. **Question:** What software will be used for data and reporting?
  - **Answer:** Practices will use their own software, but participation in the Lumos data set is required for program evaluation. The use of Inca for care planning is an option which may assist in recording project information and can be discussed with applicants.
  
13. **Question:** What are the targets for patient engagement?
  - **Answer:** The target is around 70% of patients with high blood pressure or high cholesterol to be engaged in the program, with multiple contacts per year.
  
14. **Question:** How will the program be evaluated?
  - **Answer:** Evaluation will be based on data from Lumos and other practice software, with targets set according to practice caseloads. Practices will be responsible for collecting and submitting relevant data as part of the project.