

Australian Health Reform and Workforce Planning

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Key reform features

- Federal Government to take full funding responsibility for primary health care & aged care
- Federal Government to take responsibility for 60% public hospital funding & growth from 2014
- Separate local networks for governance primary aged & public hospitals

Investment in reform

- Additional \$A20bn from 2010 to 2020 already committed- principally for public hospital
- Primary care & aged care additional investment committed around \$A1bn from 2010 to 2014
- Most above investment to meet perceived current under funding rather than new activities

Workforce issues

- National Health Workforce Agency established January 2010 to oversee workforce training & planning
- National health workforce registration & regulatory authority established late 2009
- Additional medical schools & places doubled over past 5 years
- Additional vocational (ie post MBBS) places established to match increased medical student intakes

Workforce issues

- Focus has been on numbers & distribution for all professions
- Little policy attention to interprofessional & role redefinition
- Some local initiatives in joint professional training at university level.