

GP Advisory Committee (GPAC) in Focus

Highlights – 4 December 2018 Meeting

Better Integrating Care - Approaches in the Greater Western Sydney

Dr Michael Crampton, GP Clinical Lead – Integrating Care, NBMPHN, presented *Better Integrating Care - Approaches in the Greater Western Sydney*. The presentation and subsequent discussion addressed points related to our local region – what does integrating care mean, what lessons do we need to keep in mind, and what is/can the PHN do.

The presentation looked at lessons learnt from WentWest:

- the philosophy and principles based on the 16 lessons learnt from the ‘King’s Fund’ work
- how models such as the seven levels of ‘Project Integrate’ could apply, and
- what may be appropriate for the NBM region.

The presentation also covered future directions of how best NBMPHN can facilitate working towards integrating models of care for the region, including how the PHN is currently working with the NBMLHD on joint integrating care activities.

A brief summary of the ensuing discussion follows:

- Service mapping within the region was highlighted as an important step to increasing awareness that in turn may lead to better integration. Service gaps can be often more a gap in knowledge about services that exist.
- Several models that may help with integration of care include:
 - Shared Care/conjoint models of care – especially if they are two-way processes that are open to receiving as well as giving input.
 - Using care coordinators as ‘live’ health pathways that can connect patients to services/resources and suggest best allocation of those resources. Primary Care and Community Health have up to 15 care coordination positions, so how best to see an integration with primary care (general practice).
- The HealthPathways program is helping to facilitate integration with the LHD in the region.