

Extract from:



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■ Enhanced Divisional Quality Use of Medicines

ADGP has welcomed the release of additional funds to support Primary Healthcare initiatives in the 13 EDQUM pilot Divisions.

The Enhanced Divisional Quality Use of Medicines (EDQUM) initiative will move into a new phase in 2004 when it facilitates improved primary healthcare within participating Divisions of General Practice.

Some suggested primary healthcare activities will include expanded use of lifestyle interventions, engagement of allied health professionals such as dietitians, and expanded health access for young people.

Divisions will be able to deliver improved primary healthcare because a small but significant saving to the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme has occurred in participating Divisions where QUM activities have been undertaken as part of the EDQUM program.

The 13 Divisions participating in the EDQUM pilot project have utilised a range of activities in addition to National Prescribing Service (NPS) programs to carry the message of quality prescribing to their GPs in the area of antibiotic, cardiovascular and ulcer healing drugs.

Activities have included clinical audit, GP desktop data extractions, reviews of national prescribing data, practice visits and small group discussions among GPs.

In line with agreements between the Divisions and the Australian Department of Health and Ageing, savings will be shared with participating Divisions to carry out primary healthcare initiatives.

Further information is available from ADGP's EDQUM Quality Use of Medicines Programs Officer Mark Daddo on 02 6228 0850 or mdaddo@adgp.com.au