

# MEDIA RELEASE

## New Albury Medicare Urgent Care Clinic

2 March 2023

An expression of interest to establish a new Medicare Urgent Care Clinic (UCC) in Albury has opened, with the GP-led clinic to provide bulk billed treatment for urgent but non-life threatening emergencies.

The Albury UCC is one of 14 clinics in NSW announced by the Australian Government to relieve pressure on nearby hospitals; part of 50 new UCCs across the country.

UCCs will aim to improve access to urgent care in a non-hospital setting, particularly for vulnerable groups, and reduce the pressure on emergency department presentations by providing patients with care for urgent conditions that are not immediately life-threatening.

The clinics will support people to connect to pathways of care with the broader health system, including ensuring referrals back to a patient's regular GP or other care provider to ensure they receive continuity of care.

The expression of interest is open to existing accredited general practices, community health centres and Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services and closes on 12 April.

Murray PHN CEO Matt Jones said the UCCs are helping to support the overall health system, but in particular emergency departments.

"We have a growing burden of chronic disease, on top of doctor shortages and deferred care because of COVID. Urgent Care Clinics are providing another option for people to get the urgent primary care they need, when they need it," Matt said.

For more information, visit [www.murrayphn.org.au/uccs](http://www.murrayphn.org.au/uccs)

----

### **About us:**

*Murray PHN is one of 31 PHNs (Primary Health Networks) around Australia working to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of primary health care and service systems. Across our region, we work with general practitioners (GPs), community health, Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations (ACCHOs), pharmacy, aged care and allied health practitioners, and with acute services such as hospitals, specialists and emergency care.*

*The role of PHNs is to help to support and integrate the work of these important services to ensure that the people get the right care, in the right place, at the right time. In the Murray PHN region, which covers almost 100,000 sq km of regional Victoria, we work to develop and maintain sustainable models of primary health care for our communities.*

### **Contact details**

- Amity Bradford, Murray PHN Communications Specialist, e: [abradford@murrayphn.org.au](mailto:abradford@murrayphn.org.au) or m: 0412 060308