

General Practice in Aged Care Incentive

4 July 2024
Australian Association of Practice Management



Australian Government
Department of Health and Aged Care

■ Strengthening **medicare** ■

www.health.gov.au

General Practice in Aged Care Incentive

- Policy Intent
- Design Process
- Incentive Overview
- Resources for Stakeholders
- Role of Practice Managers and PHNs



Policy Background



Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety

Final Report: Care, Dignity and Respect



Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety (Mar 2021)

- Found Residential Aged Care Home (RACH) residents faced barriers in accessing timely and high-quality care from GPs
- Recommended a new model of primary care to encourage holistic, coordinated and proactive health care

Strengthening Medicare Taskforce Report (Dec 2022)

- Recommended introduction of blended funding models integrated with fee-for-service and incentives that better promote quality bundles of care for people who need it most.



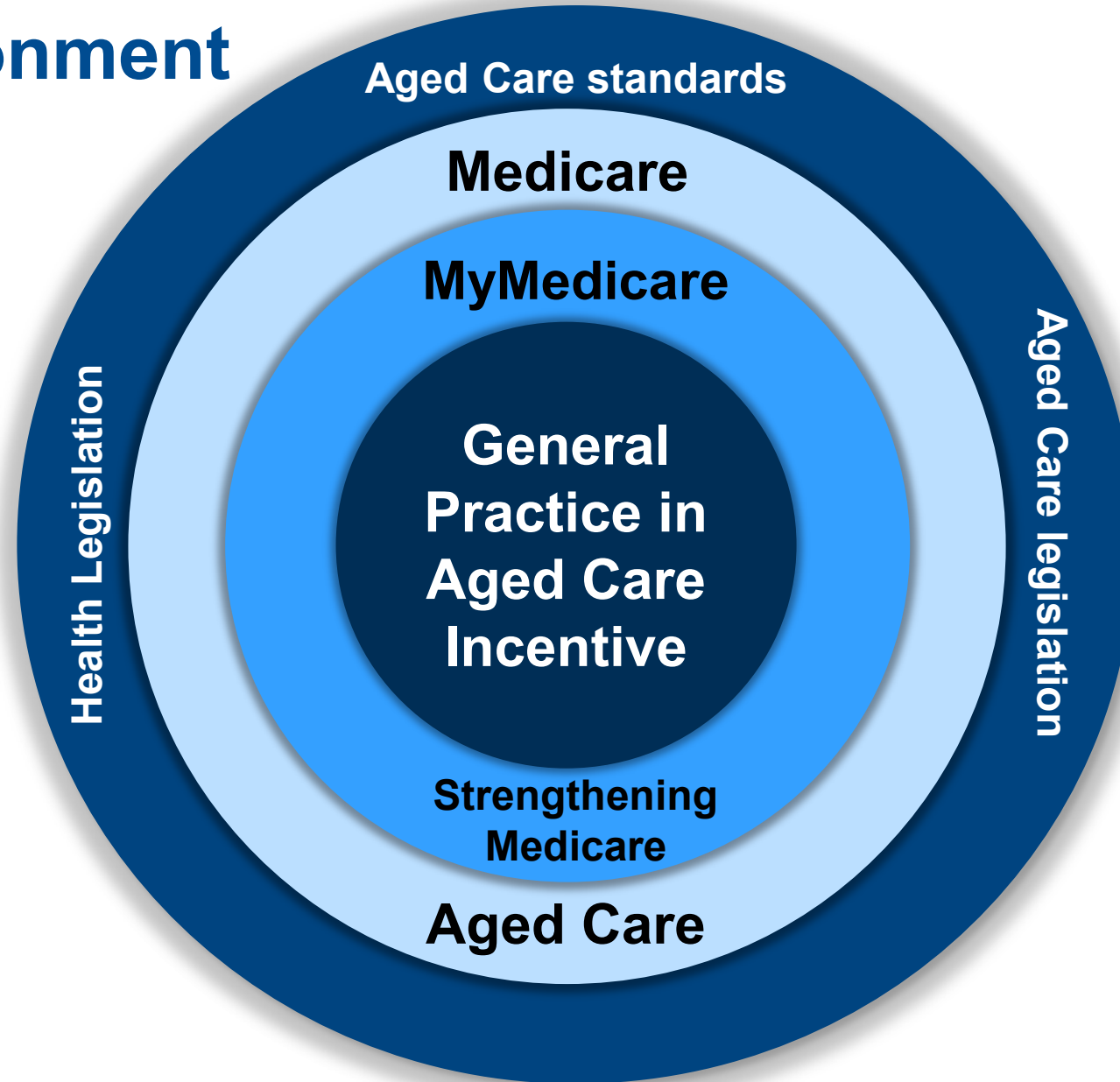
The General Practice in Aged Care Incentive aims to:

Increase **access** to primary care for people living in residential age care homes

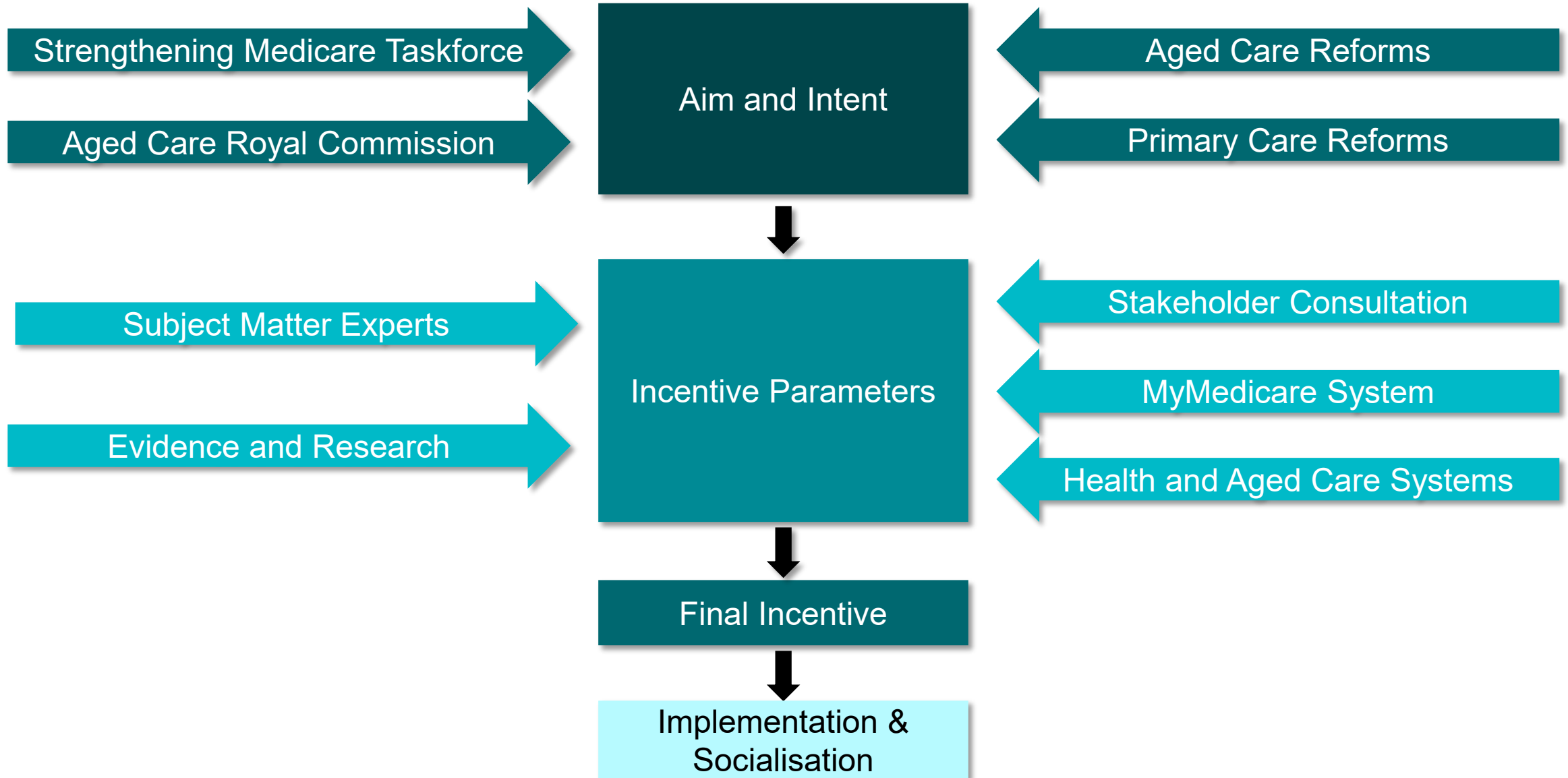
Support the delivery of **planned, proactive** and **regular care**



Policy Environment



Design Process



Stakeholder Consultation

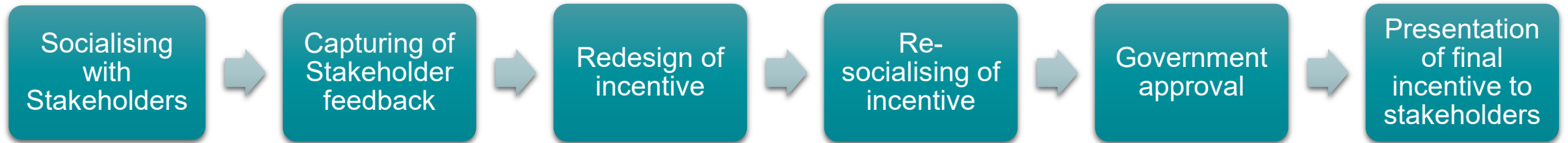
Key Stakeholders

- Royal Australian Colleague of General Practitioners
- Australian Medical Association
- Rural Doctors Association
- National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation
- Australian Association of Practice Management
- Primary Care Business Council

Key Findings

- Flexibility for rural and remote locations
- Support for team-based care
- Range of eligible service items
- Focus on care planning items

Consultation Process



Incentive Payments

Responsible providers and practices registered in MyMedicare will receive incentive payments

\$300 per patient, per annum, paid to the responsible provider

\$130 per patient, per annum, paid to the practice

For delivering at least **10 eligible services** comprising:

2 Care planning items

- Comprehensive medical assessment
- Contribution to, or review of, multidisciplinary care plan
- Multidisciplinary care conference (GP arranged or participated)
- Residential Medication Management Review

AND

8 Regular visits (2 delivered per quarter)

- Attendance at a residential aged care home (Level B-E consultations or equivalent)
- After hours services;
- Nurse Practitioner services
- Practice nurse and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practitioner services

Key Incentive Parameters

Care Teams

- Up to 1 regular visit per quarter can be delivered by a member of the patient's care team
- Care teams can include alternative GP, GP registrar, nurse practitioner, practice nurse and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health practitioner or worker

Rural Loadings

- In MMM regions 3 to 7, rural loadings will apply to both payments

MM3	20%
MM4	30%
MM5	30%
MM6	50%
MM7	50%

Telehealth

- In MMM regions 4 to 7, up to 4 regular visits can be delivered via telehealth



Registration Process

- Patients are required to be registered in **MyMedicare** with a practice willing to deliver the General Practice in Aged Care Incentive
- Practices and Providers will be required to be registered in MyMedicare and will be able to **indicate their participation** in the General Practice in Aged Care Incentive for each individual patient.
- Practices will **determine the responsible provider** for the purposes of the General Practice in Aged Care Incentive
- Participation in the General Practice in Aged Care Incentive is **voluntary** for patients, practices and providers
- PHNs and Aged Care Homes have a role in **supporting practices** and **patients** to take part in the incentive.

**Patient Registers
for MyMedicare**



**Practice indicates
participation in
incentive for each
patient**

MyMedicare Registration

General Practices

General Practices must :

- provide Medicare-funded services
- be registered in Services Australia Systems
 - Provider Digital Access (PRODA)
 - Health Professional Online Services (HPOS)
 - the Organisation Register
- have at least one eligible GP linked to the Practice in Organisation Register
- be accredited against the [National General Practice Accreditation Scheme](#)

An accreditation exemption is available until 30 June 2025. This is available to non-accredited practices (including sole providers) who deliver general practice services entirely through mobile and outreach models

Providers / GPs

- Providers / GPs must work at a MyMedicare eligible practice
- Be linked to the Practice on the Organisation Registers
- Have a valid provider number and be eligible to deliver Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS) or Department of Veterans' Affairs equivalent services.

Vocationally registered GPs, non-vocationally registered GPs and GP registrars are all eligible to be selected as a patient's preferred GP.



Supporting material is available on Services Australia website
[MyMedicare - Health Professional Education Resources](#)
(servicesaustralia.gov.au)

Payment Eligibility

Quarter	Requirements
Quarter 1	<p>To be eligible for payment at the end of assessment quarter 1, providers and practices must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• meet the eligibility requirements• provide the patient 2 eligible services in the assessment quarter, in separate calendar months, in accordance with the regular service and responsible provider requirements.
Quarter 2	<p>To be eligible for payment at the end of assessment quarter 2, providers and practices must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• meet the eligibility requirements• provide the patient 2 eligible services in the assessment quarter, in separate calendar months, in accordance with the regular service and responsible provider requirements.
Quarter 3	<p>To be eligible for payment at the end of assessment quarter 3, providers and practices must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• meet the eligibility requirements• provide the patient 2 eligible services in the assessment quarter, in separate calendar months, in accordance with the regular service and responsible provider requirements.
Quarter 4	<p>To be eligible for payment at the end of assessment quarter 4, providers and practices must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• meet the eligibility requirements• provide the patient 2 eligible services in the assessment quarter, in separate calendar months, in accordance with the regular service and responsible provider requirements• have provided a total of 8 eligible regular services over the 12-month assessment period and• have provided 2 eligible care planning items over the 12-month assessment period delivered by the responsible provider.

What happens from 1 July to 30 September 2024

- There is a 1 month overlap with the GP Aged Care Access Incentive, ceasing 31 July 2024.
- The General Practice in Aged Care Incentive is delivered on financial year quarters (July–Sept, Oct–Dec, Jan–Mar, Apr–June). 1 July to 30 September 2024 is the first quarter to deliver eligible services for the incentive.
- Registration can occur any time in the quarter. The Services Australia system will recognise any eligible services delivered within that quarter once you have registered as it will recognise the eligible MBS items.

Example

- The practice indicated the patient will participate in the incentive in MyMedicare on 15 August 2024.
- For this patient, the 12-month patient care period is 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025.
- Payment would be made in October 2024, as servicing requirements were met during the quarter.

	July 2024	August 2024	September 2024	October 2024
Activity	Attended a residential aged care home (D consultation)	Patient is linked to the practice and responsible provider. Provided a comprehensive medical assessment <i>N.B. could be provided in a different quarter</i>	Provided a practice nurse consultation	Payment received for 1 July to 30 September 2024 quarter

Support Materials

Program Guidelines

Detailed eligibility and payment requirements

Health.gov.au
July 2024

Services Australia Education Resources

Education resources on use of the MyMedicare system

servicesaustralia.gov.au
July 2024

Best Practice Guidance and Tools

Toolkits and resources support practices, providers, PHNs, and residential aged care homes to deliver best practice care under the Incentive

Health.gov.au
August 2024



Role of Practice Managers



Support patients to be registered in MyMedicare

Undertake MyMedicare registration processes

Indicate participation in the General Practice in Aged Care Incentive for each individual patient

Support the coordination and delivery of care to patients



Role of PHNs

Collaborate and engage with aged care home providers, GPs and general practices and ACCHS

Support relationships between older people living in aged care homes and aged care homes with primary care

Support stakeholders to sign up and use MyMedicare

Identify and share examples of best practice

