

FAIR ACCESS TO ALLIED HEALTH FOR ALL

Help stop the suffering and make your vote count

ahpa.com.au/electioncampaign

What does suffering sound like?

For many, it's the sound of being ignored and overlooked. **Enough is enough.** It's time to bring about the change for allied health that will mean that people finally get the attention and the relief they deserve.

To address this requires urgent federal government intervention, and we're calling on the voting public and the Australian Government to help stop the suffering. Our campaign includes the following key asks.



KEY ASK ONE

Enable full access to allied health services for early intervention and prevention throughout the life cycle. This can be achieved by:

- **Making sure people in residential aged care** get the allied health services they need as recommended by the Aged Care Royal Commission.
- **Making sure people ageing at home** get allied health services according to their assessed needs.
- **Making sure people with chronic disease** get the allied health services they need, not an arbitrary cap.
- **Ensuring Medicare items, including telehealth, are sufficient** to provide effective evidence-based care and reduce out of pocket costs.

KEY ASK TWO

Strengthen and sustain the allied health workforce to meet present and future needs in all sectors. This can be achieved by:

- **Collecting and analysing allied health data across all sectors** (primary health care, NDIS, aged care, DVA, justice, education and social service sectors) to ensure equitable access to a well distributed, effective workforce.
- **Supporting people in rural, remote and other poorly serviced areas** to get better access to allied health through adequate funding models and a comprehensive support model such as that for rural GPs.
- **Ensuring populations with specific needs have access to culturally appropriate services**, for example: train more First Nations allied health professionals, and provide funded access to interpreter services.



KEY ASK THREE

Strengthen and sustain the allied health workforce to meet present and future needs in all sectors. This can be achieved by:

- **Giving the Chief Allied Health Officer equivalent status to the Department of Health's Chief Nursing and Midwifery Officer and Deputy Medical Officers** with adequate staff to address complex cross sector reform.
- **Embedding timely and well-resourced actions for allied health** in every national health, care and support strategy such as primary health care, NDIS, aged care, DVA, justice, education and social service sectors.
- **Ensuring allied health has its own service delivery structures and referral processes** which complement and integrate with others such as GP and Medical Specialist clinics.
- **Making standards of training, competency and credentialing** for all allied health professions fully recognised, eliminating unnecessary duplication across sectors.
- **Providing adequate support to fully digitally enable** allied health service provision to support integrated patient care and secure transfer of information.