

# New Collaborative Wave Recruiting Now.

## eCollaborative – 21st Century Patient Care and Self Management



### Supporting patient care and self management with eHealth

The Improvement Foundation (IF) is pleased to announce a new Collaborative Wave focused on improving chronic disease care and self-management using technology. In particular, the eCollaborative Wave will focus on engaging people in using new technology to innovate approaches to chronic disease care and self management.

#### What is the 'eCollaborative' Wave?

This eCollaborative Wave will continue to use the highly successful Collaboratives methodology, which has been implemented through the Australian Primary Care Collaboratives (APCC) Program since 2004. This wave is open exclusively to general practices and health services that have previously participated in the APCC Program and, as your team is already familiar with Collaboratives Methodology, the workshops will not revisit the fundamentals in depth.

This wave provides a great opportunity for your practice or health service to continue actively using this world leading improvement methodology and adopt new technology to further improve health outcomes.

Participating general practices and health services will receive hands-on support, the ability to monitor improvements via the IF web portal and the opportunity to share ideas and experiences with colleagues.

#### Sharing ideas with other general practices and health services

Through involvement in this eCollaborative Wave, your general practice or health service will be at the forefront of electronic health. You will be provided with a system that simulates the environment that will be available when the PCEHR is launched, and you will have the opportunity to share your experiences and ideas, and network with approximately 60 other general practices and health services in this wave.

#### Improve patient outcomes

This wave will support your general practice or health service to work towards improving outcomes for people with chronic disease by promoting better patient self-management and better integration of patient care teams using available technologies and services that are becoming available as a result of the fast-developing national infrastructure.

#### Improve the way you work

You will learn about using eHealth technologies to support patient self management and you will learn the skills and get support to:

- Achieve better outcomes for your patients with chronic disease
- Support better patient self management
- Be ready for the PCEHR national infrastructure when it becomes operational.

An innovative aspect of this wave is the engagement of patients through a locally based patient workshop, which will be directly supported by IF, to better understand patients' experiences with the technology and identify opportunities for innovation.

#### Workshop dates:

The workshops will be delivered via a hybrid model consisting of two national 'face to face' workshops and three virtually based workshops. A short orientation session will be delivered virtually, commencing in November. Both a GP and a practice staff member will be required to attend the orientation and learning workshops (LW) that will be held on the following dates:

- **LW1** (virtual\*) delivered in the week of 12 December 2011
- **LW2** (national) Saturday 18 February 2012
- **LW3** (virtual\*) delivered in the week of 16 April 2012
- **LW4** (national) Saturday 23 June 2012
- **LW5** (virtual\*) delivered in the week of 20 August 2012

*\*Virtual workshops will be delivered via webinar over several streams with dates and times to be confirmed.*

# What is a PCEHR?

The National E-Health Transition Authority (NEHTA) is working with the Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing to develop and implement the Australian Government's national personally controlled electronic health records (eHealth records) program, which will be operational by 1 July 2012.

A PCEHR is a tool that can be used in a number of ways to engage with patients and improve health outcomes. This wave will provide general practices and health services with a system that simulates the environment that will be available when the PCEHR is launched, thus offering the benefits outlined below:

- Empowering patients and helping them better manage chronic disease
- Enabling better decision making by healthcare providers and patients through the availability of more complete, accurate and up to date health information
- Streamlining team care and management plan activities
- Improving the use of resources through improved access to quality health information, faster clinical assessments, more accurate diagnosis and referrals, and more effective treatment and prescribing of medications.

## What is required of participating general practices and health services?

There are some minimum requirements that general practices and health services must meet:

- A GP and another staff member to attend and actively participate in orientation and all learning workshops
- Set aside dedicated time to undertake work in the topic area
- Coordinate a locally based patient engagement workshop, with support from IF, to engage patients, better understand their experience with the technology and identify opportunities for innovation
- Submit monthly Plan, Do, Study, Act (PDSA) cycles
- Collect and submit data on a monthly basis.

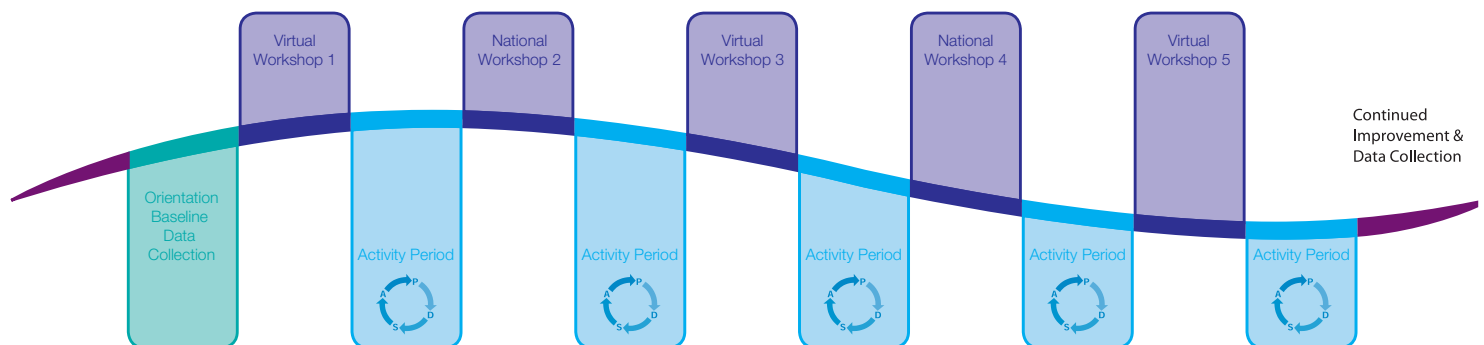
## Payments for general practices and health services

IF will fund each general practice and health service \$4,000 (excluding GST) to support their participation in this Collaborative wave.

## Professional development points for GPs, practice and health service staff

IF expects there will be 80 category one points under the RACGP QI & CPD program. These points will be attributed to the 2011-13 triennium.

## eCollaborative Wave



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