



# Primary care is the hub of diabetes management

## How do we do more with less?

### Effective diabetes models of care can be win- win

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Medical Director Victoria, IPN Medical Centres  
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University of Melbourne.



# Camberwell Road Medical Practice

13 GPs, 6 PNs, 1 CP, 4 AH, 1 PN, 6 RS  
Onsite and offsite community medicine

Aged care 300+ residents

4 GP teachers

Medical students from UoM, MonMS, UK & Asia

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Research:

Diabetes & Metabolic Group

PC4

PhD, Honours projects, Scholarly Selective.

Clinical Trials Site Management Organization (SMO)



"Local Management. Global Advantage."





# IPN is a small part of Sonic



26 Practices in Victoria



A screenshot of the IPN website showing statistics for Australia. The page has a 'Menu' button in the top right corner. The main heading is 'Australia.' Below this, there are six statistics presented in a grid format, each with an icon and a large number followed by a plus sign. The statistics are: 1,800+ GPs currently working with IPN (with a group of people icon); 160+ medical centres in the IPN network (with a house icon); 400+ GP Registrars successfully trained with IPN (with a clipboard icon); 90+ GP Registrars currently practising with IPN (with a person icon); 40%+ of our practices are accredited training providers (with a checkmark icon); and 10 mil+ patient consultations a year (with a group of people icon). At the bottom of the screenshot, there is a paragraph: 'We work with Doctors, nurses and practice staff at over 190 medical centres to provide patients with the Best of Health.'

**Australia.**

- 1,800+** GPs currently working with IPN
- 160+** medical centres in the IPN network
- 400+** GP Registrars successfully trained with IPN
- 90+** GP Registrars currently practising with IPN
- 40%+** of our practices are accredited training providers
- 10 mil+** patient consultations a year

We work with Doctors, nurses and practice staff at over 190 medical centres to provide patients with the Best of Health.



# Is Patient Engagement The key?

Can we change the dynamic?

Patient-clinician partnership

Patient curated medical record

Better connected clinicians

Less searching around for information

Patient record on the patient's mobile device



MediTracker

Is this the key to doing more with less?

*Planned care & a formal contract ?*



## Sarah's story



How could we have engaged her better?

# Theory:

“Patient engagement is an increasingly important component of strategies to reform health care”

[Judith H. Hibbard](https://www.healthaffairs.org/doi/full/10.1377/hlthaff.2012.1061), University of Oregon<sup>1</sup> and [Jessica Greene](#)  
<https://www.healthaffairs.org/doi/full/10.1377/hlthaff.2012.1061>

“There is a growing body of evidence showing that patients who are more activated have better health outcomes and care experiences...”

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“...but there is limited evidence to date about the impact on costs.” to health sector.

“...patients who start at the lowest activation levels tend to increase the most.”





“The focus on activation and engagement rather than compliance recognizes that patients manage their health on their own the vast majority of the time, making decisions daily that affect their health and costs.”

“The evidence linking patient activation with health outcomes, patient experience, and costs has grown substantially over the past decade.”

“...people who score higher on the Patient Activation Measure are significantly more likely...to engage in preventive behaviour...regular check-ups, screenings, and immunizations, eating a healthy diet and getting regular exercise.”

[Judith H. Hibbard, University of Oregon<sup>1</sup> and Jessica Greene  
https://www.healthaffairs.org/doi/full/10.1377/hlthaff.2012.1061](https://www.healthaffairs.org/doi/full/10.1377/hlthaff.2012.1061)



“Less activated patients are also three times as likely to have unmet medical needs and twice as likely to delay medical care, compared with more activated patients.”

“Chronically ill patients with higher activation levels are more likely than those with lower levels to adhere to treatment; perform regular self-monitoring at home; and obtain regular chronic care, such as foot exams for diabetes”

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“When Patient Activation Measure scores increased, multiple behaviours improved, regardless of the...activation level at baseline.”

[Judith H. Hibbard, University of Oregon<sup>1</sup> and Jessica Greene  
https://www.healthaffairs.org/doi/full/10.1377/hlthaff.2012.1061](https://www.healthaffairs.org/doi/full/10.1377/hlthaff.2012.1061)



“Many of the findings have been replicated in studies conducted in different countries, including Denmark, Germany, the United Kingdom, Japan, Norway, Canada, the Netherlands, and Australia.”

“The emerging evidence suggests a potentially new quality goal: increasing patient activation as an intermediate outcome of care that is measurable and linked with improved outcomes.”

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[Judith H. Hibbard, University of Oregon<sup>1</sup> and Jessica Greene  
https://www.healthaffairs.org/doi/full/10.1377/hlthaff.2012.1061](https://www.healthaffairs.org/doi/full/10.1377/hlthaff.2012.1061)



# A Social Prescription.

Where are the problems, where are the enablers?

What's home like?

Financial problems?

## Tailoring to the person's Activation Level

“Smaller manageable steps for less activated people.”

“More activated, more substantial behavioural changes.”

[Judith H. Hibbard, University of Oregon<sup>1</sup> and Jessica Greene  
https://www.healthaffairs.org/doi/full/10.1377/hlthaff.2012.1061](https://www.healthaffairs.org/doi/full/10.1377/hlthaff.2012.1061)



# A structural change

*First level engagement* – Shared Decision Making

*Second level and Third level engagement* - health care organizations structure themselves to meet patients' needs and preferences

(Carman and co-authors)

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“Many public and private health care organizations are employing strategies to better engage patients, such as educating them about their conditions and involving them more fully in making decisions about their care.

[Julia James](#)

<https://www.healthaffairs.org/doi/10.1377/hpb20130214.898775/full/>



70% of National Health Service (NHS) spending being for patients with long-term conditions.

Targeted intervention was of most benefit to those “...living in areas of high socioeconomic deprivation or those with mental health conditions”

“Objective: Measure patient self-management capability using the Patient Activation Measure (PAM) and compare healthcare utilisation across a whole health economy.

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Conclusions: Self-management capability is associated with lower healthcare utilisation and less wasteful use across primary and secondary care.

Isaac Barker, Adam Steventon, Robert Williamson, Sarah R Deeny  
<https://qualitysafety.bmj.com/content/27/12/989>



## WellNet trial sites:

North Sydney – 3 IPN 3 non-IPN practices

Victoria – 6 IPN practices

Hunter -

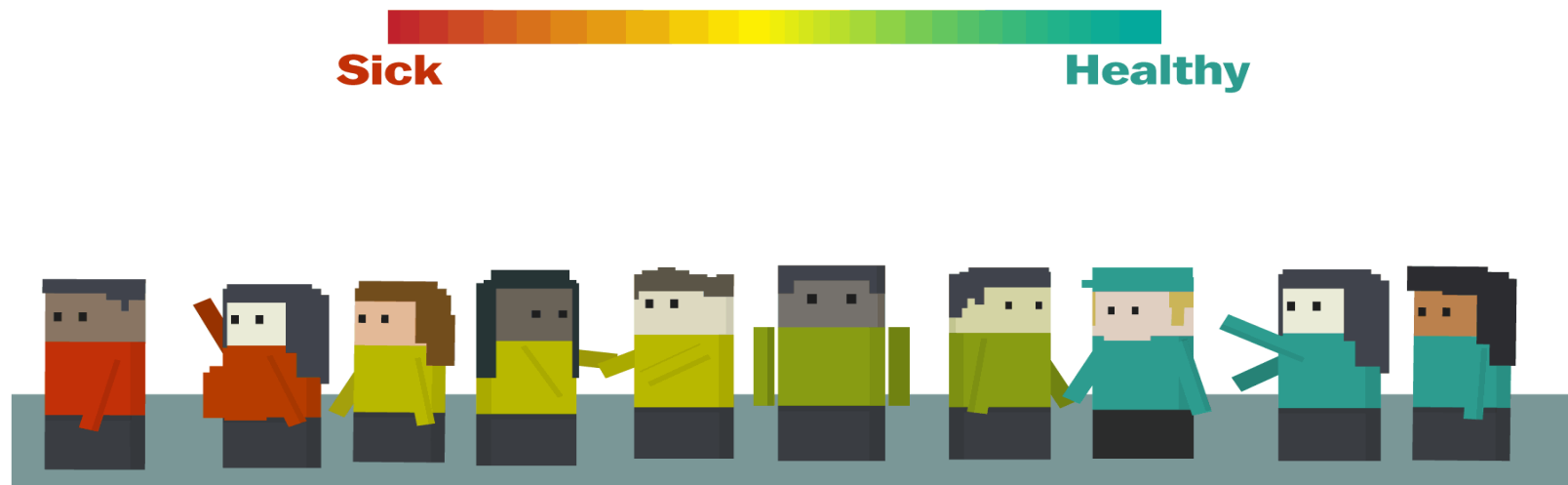
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Victorian Partners:



# Target Groups

- Complex patients
- Multi-morbid patients
- Uncomplicated patients
- At risk patients





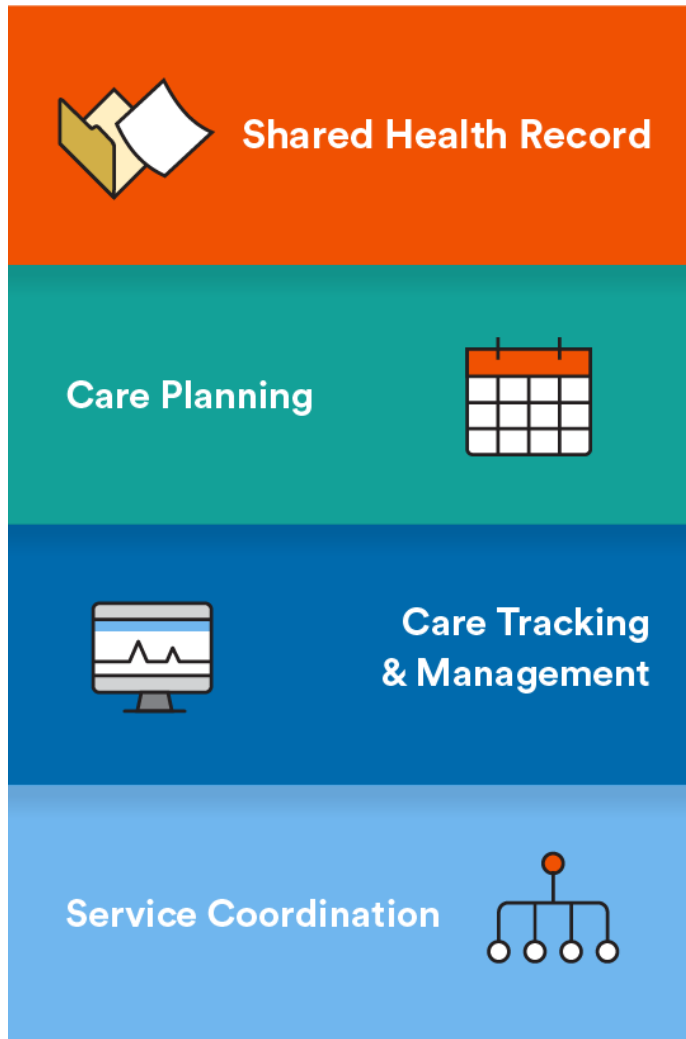
# Technology supporting CDM

- Risk stratification
- Shared electronic medical records
- Mobile app
- Digitally enabled education
- Big time saving

*Time  
is  
Gold*



# Shared electronic health records



cdm1et

- Web based e-record shared & used by whole of care team including AHP
- Digital care plans – guidelines based
- Care coordination - assigns tasks & responsibilities to care team members
- Tracking – team members contribute to care plan on completion of tasks

# Patient mobile app

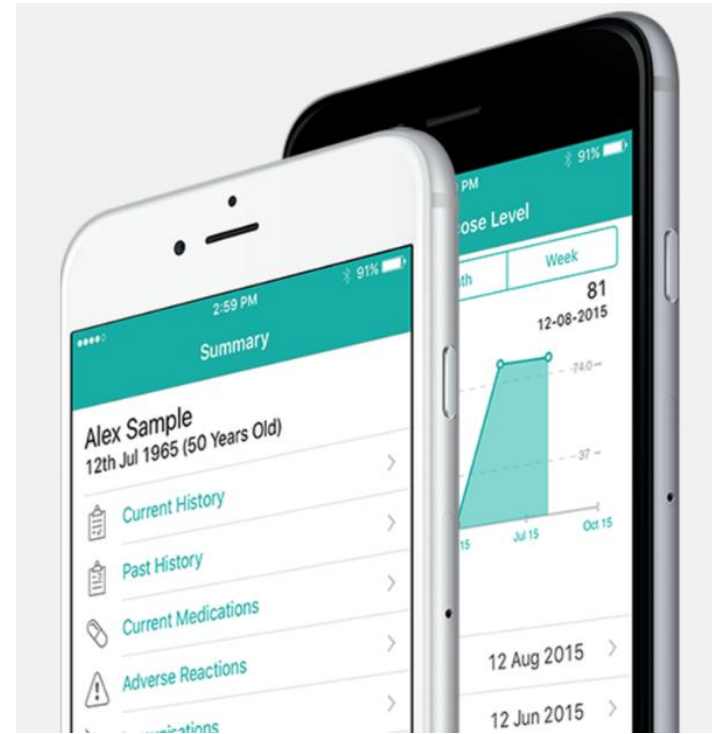


## MediTracker 12+

Your GP Medical Summary  
Precedence Health Care Pty Ltd

#153 in Medical  
★★★★☆ 3.0, 15 Ratings

Free · Offers In-App Purchases



### Health Summary

See your up-to-date medical history, as well as your prescribed medications, allergies, and immunisations.



### Care Team

Helps you keep track of the people in your care team, providing you with accurate contact information.



### Measurements

Track, graph and monitor important measurements and pathology tests ordered by your GP.

## WellNet Objectives:

Increase patient involvement in the self-management of their CDM and to create enhanced physician engagement in the primary care model

Improving the outcomes and quality of life of patients with multimorbidity, reducing the likelihood of developing CV disease and diabetes, and reducing patients' risk of hospitalisation.

Mean PAM score (420 patients completed the WellNet program) significantly increased from 57.8 to 64.6 (11.8%)

25.3% increase in GPs' engagement with the care team in their patient's chronic disease management after one-years'



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
MELBOURNE

## WellNet secondary objectives:

Assessments	N	Baseline mean (SD)	12-months mean (SD)	mean difference (95%CI)	p-value
PAM	420	57.87 (13.02)	64.69 (15.36)	6.82 (5.39, 8.25)	<0.001
HARP	430	15.9 (3.88)	14.01 (4.58)	-1.89 (-2.31, -1.47)	<0.001
EQ5D	417	0.79 (0.18)	0.82 (0.18)	0.03 (0.02, 0.05)	<0.001
K10	208	18.14 (6.96)	17.4 (7.10)	-0.74 (-1.45, -0.03)	0.04
DASS21	218				
<i>Mean depression scale</i>		7.18 (9.14)	5.4 (7.85)	-1.78 (-2.72, -0.84)	<0.001
<i>Mean anxiety scale</i>		6.33 (6.64)	5.01 (6.25)	-1.32 (-2.17, -0.47)	0.002
<i>Mean stress scale</i>		9.02 (8.16)	7.2 (7.95)	-1.82 (-2.78, -0.86)	<0.001
CVD Risk	320	12.18 (7.42)	11.28 (6.95)	-0.90 (-1.29, -0.51)	<0.001
AusDrisk	137	16.04 (4.82)	15.24 (4.31)	-0.80 (-1.31, -0.28)	0.003

Out of 49 GPs surveyed, more than 80 % reported that WellNet provides proactive and systematic care for their patients' CDM.

# Patient engagement

- Patients engaged with program
- Positive patient outcomes
- Program generated patient loyalty

“patients love the program because of its comprehensive care”

“it definitely improves practice reputation”

“patients are so much more motivated to take charge of their lifestyle issues and health”

# GP engagement

- Takes time and investment in change management
- GP leaders and early adopters are critical
- GPs see value of comprehensive nature of program
- 250% increase in CD item number billings

“many silent or unattended to issues are uncovered and dealt with”.

“identification of clinical issues which clinicians ordinarily don’t have time to delve into”

# Technology

## cdmNet

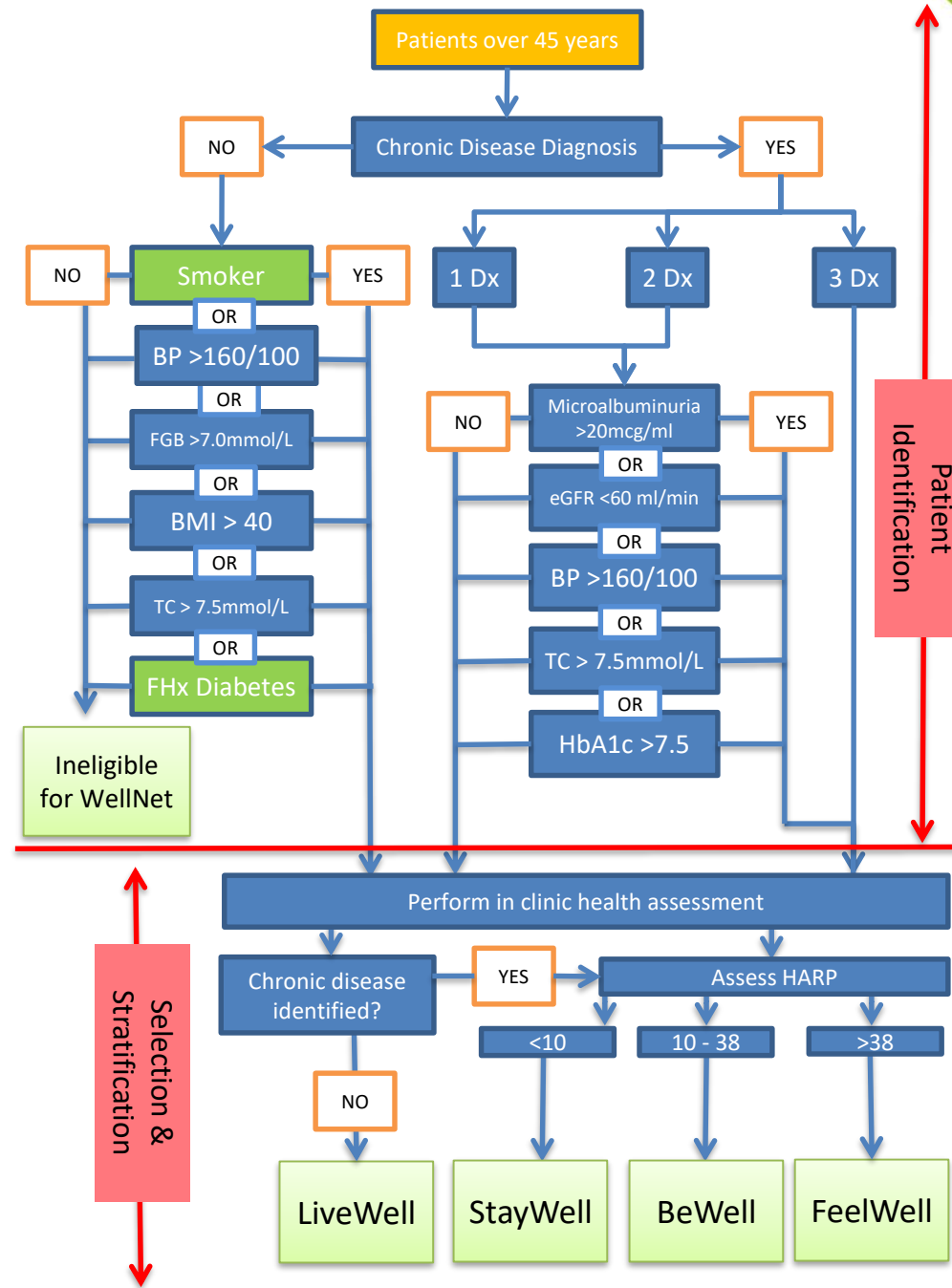
- Enables shared care planning and engagement
- Sits outside of GP clinical practice system
- Can be confusing for GPs not familiar with it
- Requires dedicated training

“(cdmNet) saves  
on faxing and  
emailing”



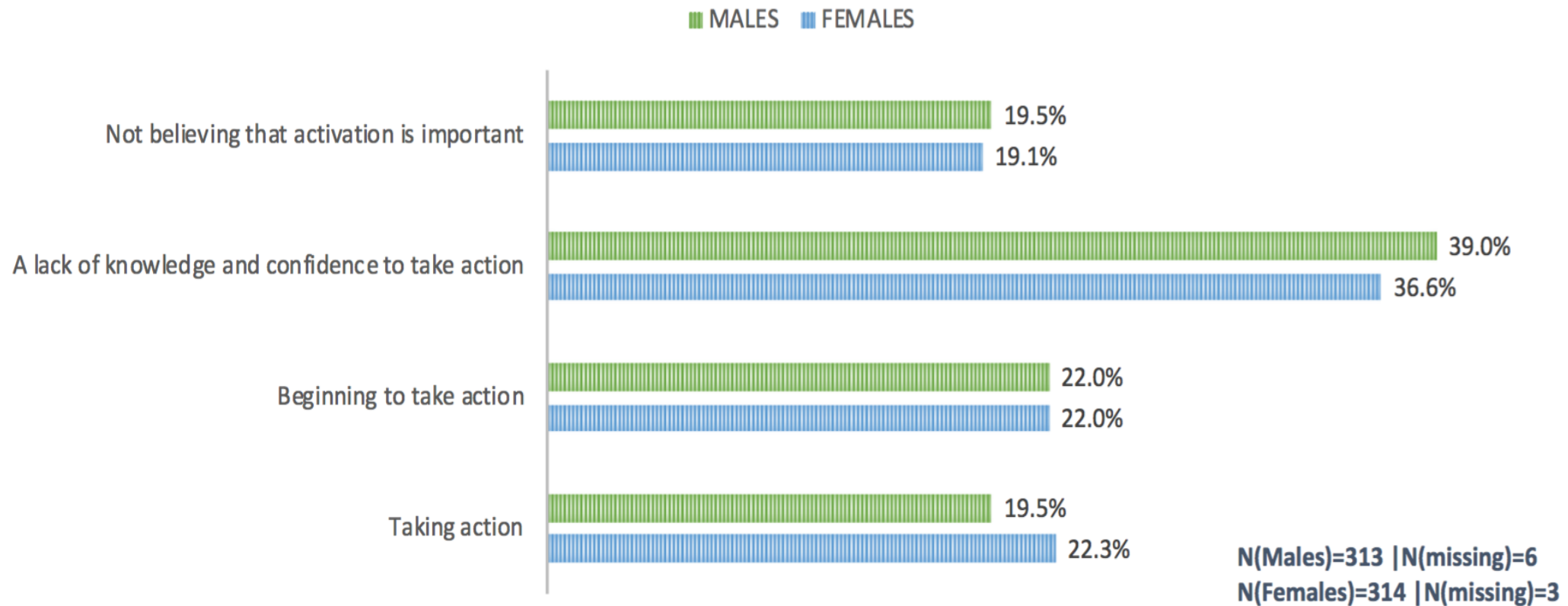
# Risk Stratification

- Data extraction tool
- Risk factors/diagnoses
- Patient identification
- Health assessment
- Stratification
- Selection



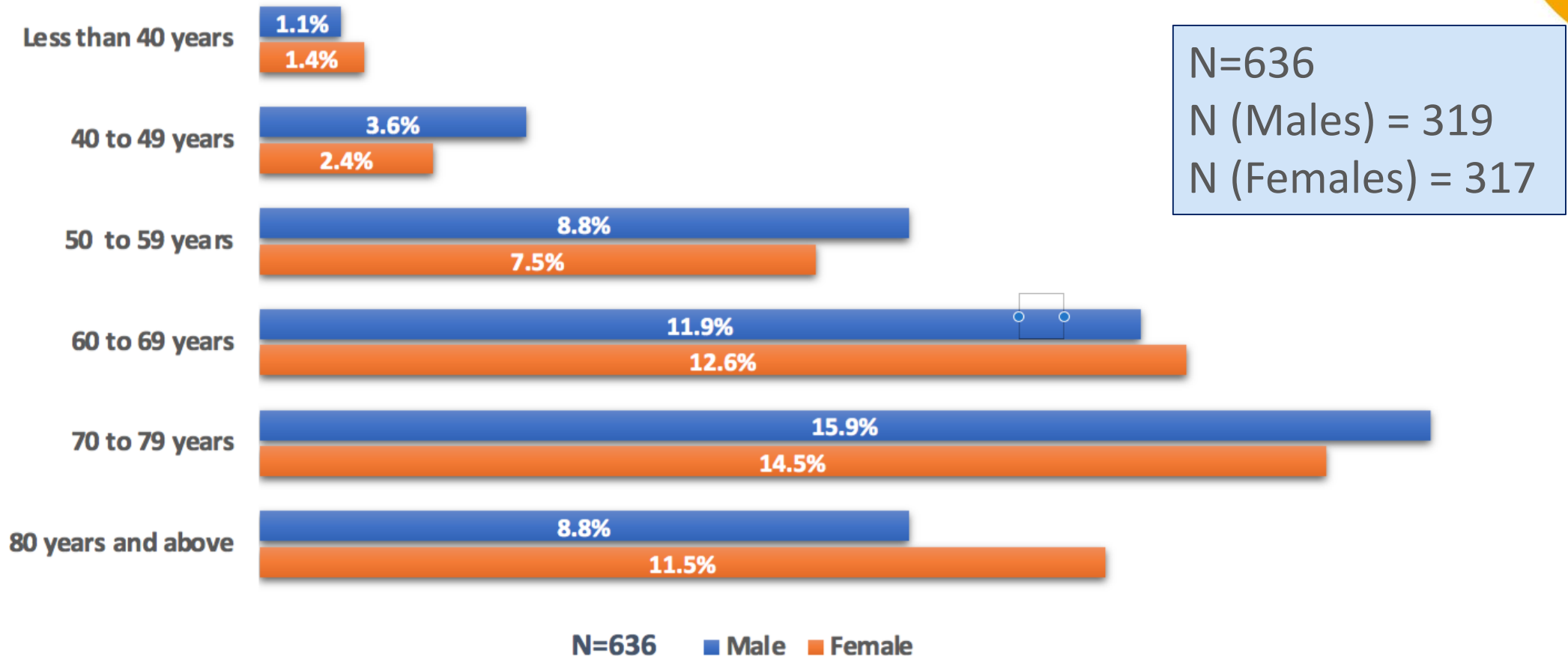
# Patient Activation

## PATIENT ACTIVATION MEASURES (PAM) SCORES



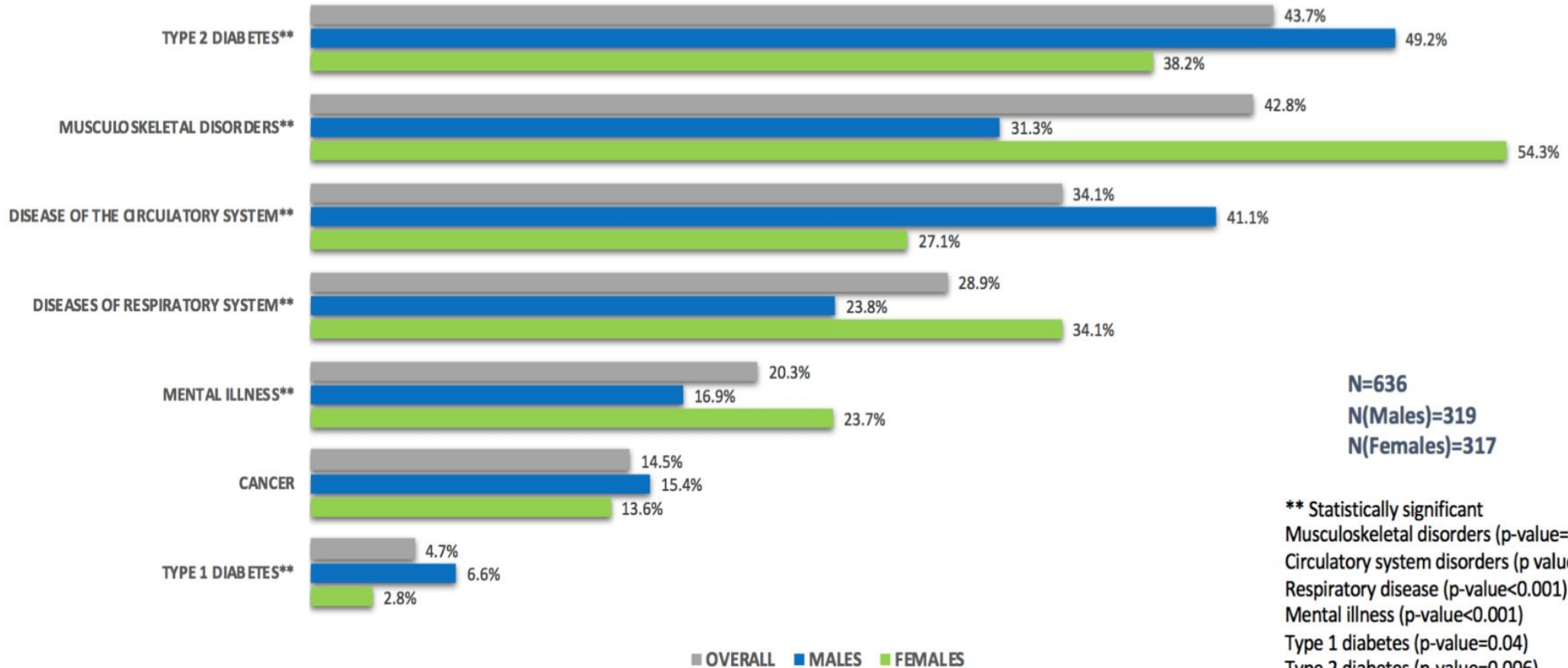
# Patient demographics

## How old are the participants in WellNet group?



# Disease profile

## CHRONIC CONDITIONS IN WELLNET GROUP (BY GENDER)



N=636

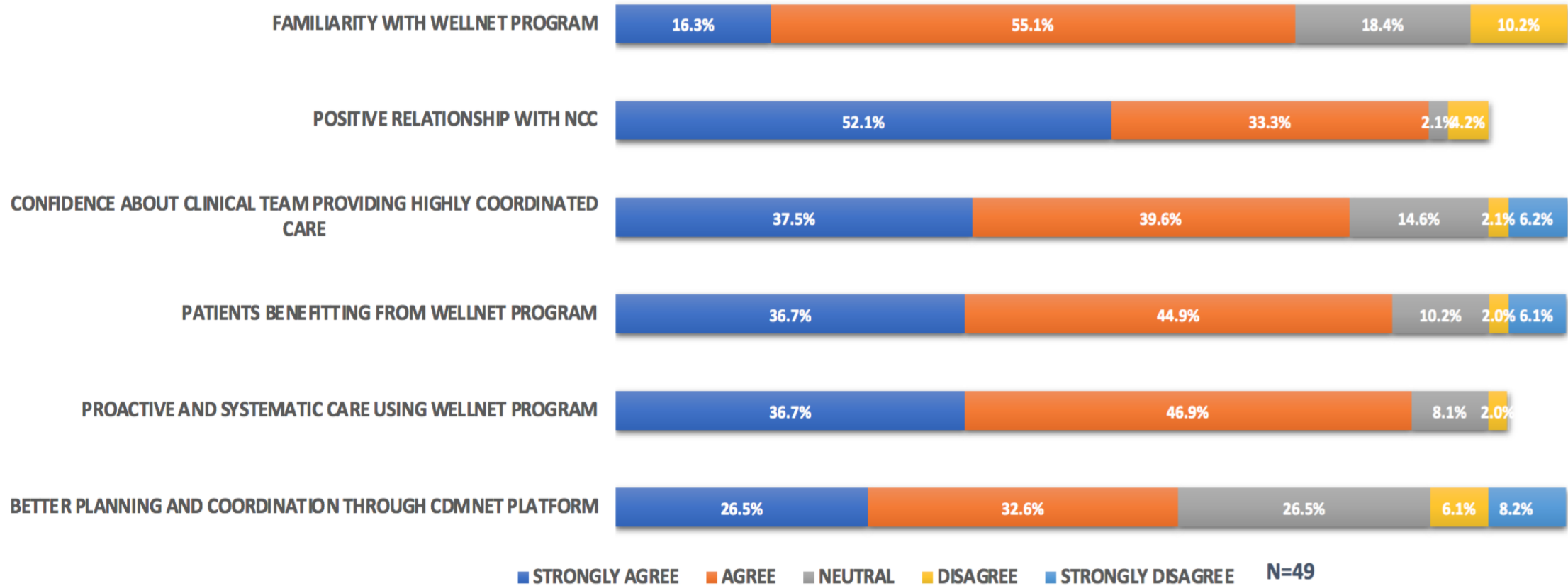
N(Males)=319

N(Females)=317

\*\* Statistically significant  
Musculoskeletal disorders (p-value=0.006)  
Circulatory system disorders (p value=0.004)  
Respiratory disease (p-value<0.001)  
Mental illness (p-value<0.001)  
Type 1 diabetes (p-value=0.04)  
Type 2 diabetes (p-value=0.006)

# GP survey

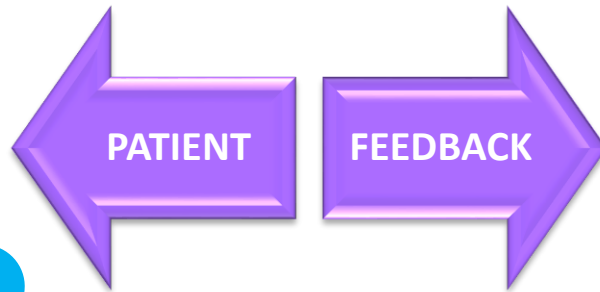
## SECTION 2: WELLNET PROGRAM



"It's been a good journey with my coordinator , [she's] friendly and professional. My GP is the best , very calm , knowledgeable and professional".

"Thoroughly enjoyed my monthly visits with S\*\*\* , will miss our many laughs !!"

"The program is really helpful for me to keep my health and improve my problem in many ways".



"I think this program helps me focus and take of my health regularly . I would like to continue with the same".

"I feel I have personally benefited immensely by this program"

"The WellNet service is an innovation idea to tackle Australia's diabetic epidemic and should be located in every large GP practice as a necessity"

“working in the team framework is the way things should be done”.

“patients love the program because of its comprehensive care”

“feedback from patients very positive especially with care coordination set up via nurses”.



“patients are so much more motivated to take charge of their lifestyle issues and health”

“many silent or unattended to issues are uncovered and dealt with”.

“identification of clinical issues which clinicians ordinarily don't have time to delve into”

# Be brave.

**“The department of health have told us that they are comfortable with GPs using CDM item numbers as long as they are clinically indicated”**

Dr Amit Vorha Executive General Manager, Health Solutions & Government Relations, Sonic Clinical  
Services

- Let's change the way we organize our day
- Planned CDM sessions
- Urgent care sessions
- Single problem clinics?







Mixed CDM billing is a better service.

Six organized CDM visits per year  
900, 23, 721, 723, 732 x4, 739, 10997 x5

for pensioners: \$924.70 (\$x154.12 per visit)  
for private patients: \$1174.50 (\$195.75 per visit),  
assuming \$80 private item 23 visit fee (gap \$254.40 pa)



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We have to financially be able to make this work.

Next step for your practice?



There is a two tiered GP system in Australia.

Where do you belong?

