



MEDIA ALERT

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Immediate release

Allied Healthcare must be a key component of the new design

Designing a new primary health care system is an essential component for the renewal of Australia's Healthcare System said Dr Jeanne Besner, Director of Health Council of Canada, during a key note speech at the National Allied Health Conference in Canberra today.

"Canadians are several years ahead of Australia's current reforms so there are many lessons to be learnt from examining our reform implementation process," said Dr Besner.

"In essence, it will come down to changing the way health care is delivered," she said.

"Everyone has to be engaged. Everyone has to make a long-term commitment to ensure the reforms happen to benefit patients. This means commitment to the process from the federal and state governments, consumers and all healthcare professionals to make it work for everyone."

"Conversations with consumers must include the value for money argument: what has to be sacrificed in order to have access to increasing use of the health care system?"

Ends

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