

## Working for Practice Owners since 2016

The Australian General Practice Alliance was formed in 2016 to represent the interests of GP practice owners. Our aim is to address the issues that face Principal led General Practices.

The Australian model of GP-owned private General Practice has been responsible for our international reputation as an efficient and highly effective primary health care service.

The continuation of high quality primary healthcare in Australia is dependent on the continued viability of the Practices that provide the leadership and infrastructure that allows GPs to practice and patients to access the healthcare system. AGPA seeks to ensure the continued viability of these Practices.

Successive Governments have not considered it important to have a vibrant general practice sector. As a result GPs have been sidelined repeatedly while strong lobby groups such as Pathology Australia and the Pharmacy Guild have been able to influence Government health policy and regulations.

We need you to join us to advocate and lobby Governments to keep General Practice viable, thriving and in the hands of GPs.

We work alongside the AMA and RACGP as an independent voice to represent GPs who believe ownership of practices by GPs best aligns business objectives with patient outcomes. As partners in our patients' care, we shape our practices to provide sustainable, safe and accessible care. While needing to operate with business principles, our overarching objective is to provide excellent health care to our patients over the long term. We differentiate ourselves from large corporates by not needing to achieve short term financial goals to sustain share prices. Unlike big business, we do not seek to dominate the industry with market share.

We encourage all GP practice owners to become members to strengthen our ability to advocate for an independent and financially sustainable general practice.







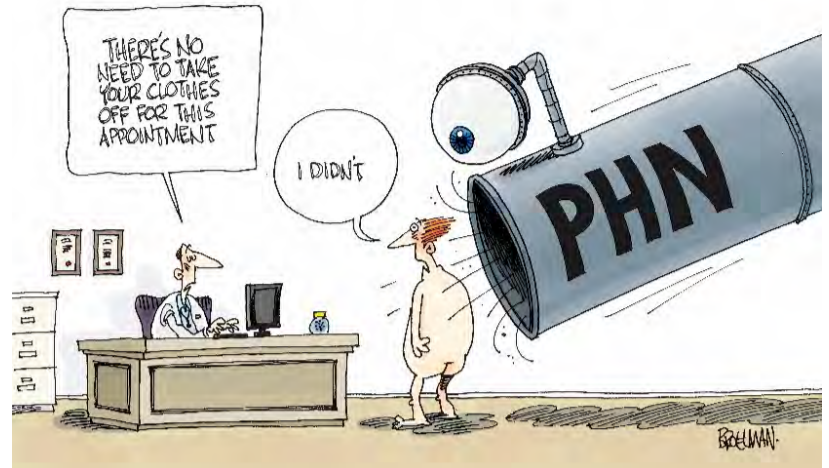
## Pathology Rents

Lobbying to prevent rent control and maintain willing seller/willing buyer arrangements, webinars to discuss how to tender, assistance with DoH information requests, monitoring ongoing developments with legal cases and potential precedents. In 2023 we engaged with the ACCC to prevent further consolidation in the Pathology Sector, arguing that it would jeopardise competition and therefore impact on the ability of Practices to achieve appropriate market rents for ACCs. .

## PIP QI

AGPA campaigned to ensure that PHNs could not require full data extraction and the imposition of third party software on to Practice Management Systems. Practices are only required to submit a JSON File of the PIPQI Indicators to achieve payment.

This issue has now returned as PHNs try to impose the use of Primary Sense to achieve PIPQI, and the provision of all Practice patient data to participate in PHN funded programs. This will become a significant issue for GP as government funnels more funding via PHNs.



## COVID -19 Support

AGPA campaigned to have GP provided with consumables as part of the Vaxzevria roll out and to make the MBS rules around vaccination flexible enough to make vaccination viable for Practices. We campaigned to make Pfizer (Comirnaty) vaccination available to GP, the provision of PPE and the continuation of telehealth. We conducted Webinars to support Practices as the pandemic hit and rapid response to changing conditions was required, dealing with rent issues as Pathology Companies attempted to impose rent reductions, fortnightly updates on discussions at Primary Health Care COVID-19 response Group (PCIG)



## Payroll Tax

Commencing with GP contracts in 2018 and then the Victorian Optical Superstore case in 2019 AGPA has held a number of webinars to explain the changing situation, using lawyers to interpret the case law and accountants to discuss options for Practices. In 2023 and 2024 we continued to actively lobby State politicians and State Revenue Offices seeking a resolution for this major issue. There are a number of informative webinar recordings on our website.



**AGPA AUSTRALIAN GP ALLIANCE**

The Federal Government has given up on supporting your access to General Practice care.

From 2010–2019 health inflation was about 5% per year.  
Your Medicare rebate increased by only 0.5% per year.

Category	Average annual increase in funding from Federal Government 2010–2019
HEALTH INFLATION	5%
STATE HEALTH FUNDING	~4.5%
PHARMACY FUNDING	~4.5%
PRIVATE HEALTH INSURANCE	~4.5%
PATIENT MEDICARE REBATES	0.5%

Table: Average annual increase in funding from Federal Government 2010–2019

A 2019 election promise to invest an additional \$450M into General Practice was not delivered.

**Why is Your Health being undervalued?**

## Election Activity

AGPA made submissions to and lobbied the major parties about the parlous state of GP due to the continuous defunding of Medicare under both of the major political parties.

## Transitioning to Private Billing

In 2022 as conditions for GP worsened, we conducted webinars on transitioning from bulkbilling to mixed and private billing. Practices have used our election material to help explain to patients why they are no longer able to bulkbill.

## Peer Discussion Groups

In 2022 we commenced our highly successful peer discussion group program where small groups of Practice Owners meet to discuss issues of mutual interest. If you are interested in joining a group contact us at [admin@australiangpalliance.org.au](mailto:admin@australiangpalliance.org.au)



**Don't Tax Health!**

[australiangpalliance.org.au](http://australiangpalliance.org.au)

**Join us to keep Practices viable, thriving and in the hands of GPs.**

<https://australiangpalliance.com.au/join-and-pay-online/>

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