



Review of drug and alcohol prevention and treatment service sector

Medicine

National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre

Drug Policy Modelling Program

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Project Focus

Goal:

To review and inform the distribution of Commonwealth government alcohol and other drug (AOD) prevention and treatment funding.

We aim to deliver:

1. A shared understanding of current alcohol and drug treatment funding;
2. A set of funding processes for future Commonwealth AOD funding rounds;
3. Documentation to inform future Commonwealth funding processes, which articulate with state/territory approaches and respond to the needs of individuals, families, and communities.

Project Approach

The project has six major components:

1. Service funding review
2. Service planning analysis
3. Gap analysis
4. Funding models review
5. Innovation
6. Analysis, interpretation, considerations

In addition, the National Drug Research Institute is undertaking extensive consultations and providing expert input regarding Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander alcohol and other drug services

Component 1: Service Funding Review

Areas to be covered	Methods
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What types of agencies and treatment services are currently funded? • Who funds the services? • In what settings are services provided? • In what quantum are services provided? (amount of services: # of beds/# of episodes/# outpatient “spots”) • Who is targeted by the services? (youth, women, homeless) and what is the extent of met demand? • In which LHN and Medicare Locals are the services located? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rapid Assessment (states/territories; peak bodies) • Monash improving navigation service lists • Secondary data analysis (NMDS; NOPSAD; NHMD; BEACH) • Hidden services analysis

Component 1: Service Funding Review

Outputs

- List of all funded services, their funding sources, type and amount
- Analysis of met demand – demographic characteristics of those receiving treatment
- Analysis of geographic relationships between AOD service locations and people receiving treatment & LHNs, Medicare Local boundaries
- Analysis of the reliability and validity of the *Improving Navigation* data
- Identification of “hidden” services not accessed by the identified data methods

Component 1: Service Funding Review

Products

- Working papers on a) funded services, met demand and service locations, b) funding map
- Report on reliability and validity of *Improving Navigation* data
- Report on services, organisations, and programs not previously identified

Component 2: Service Planning Analysis

Areas to be covered	Methods
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What are the current jurisdictional planning processes, contractual arrangements, and tendering timelines?• Who are the current priority groups? How are they identified? How are they translated into funding decisions?• What are the state/territory reform plans?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rapid assessments

Component 2: Service Planning Analysis

Outputs

- Analysis of policy and planning processes
- Timetable of contracting processes across jurisdictions and current procurement arrangements
- Analysis of the impacts of state and territory reforms on Commonwealth AOD treatment funding

Products

- Working paper of service planning review

Component 3: Gap Analysis

Areas to be covered	Methods
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What is the gap between met and unmet demand?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• DA-CCP analysis• Qualitative gap analysis (from rapid assessments)

Component 3: Gap Analysis

Outputs

- DA-CCP gap analysis
- Qualitative gap analysis

Products

- Working paper on unmet demand (gap analysis)

Component 4: Funding Models Review

Areas to be covered	Methods
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What are the possible models for funding (e.g. tendering, unit costs, block grants), drawing on international literature and Australian models?• What are the potential varieties of procurement arrangements, including funding accountability (reporting requirements, payment by results)?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rapid assessment data• Literature review on funding models• Spatial dimension to health planning (review)

Component 4: Funding Models Review

Outputs

- Review of possible funding approaches (within Australia and international experiences)
- Analysis of funding models and their respective advantages and disadvantages
- Description of potential procurement arrangements
- Review of the spatial dimension to AOD health planning with recommendations regarding the ways in which health funders can accommodate geography

Component 4: Funding Models Review

Products

- Working paper on funding approaches analysis
- Working paper on the spatial dimension to AOD health planning with recommendations on ways in which health funders are able to accommodate geography

Component 5: Innovation

Areas to be covered	Methods
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How can innovation and diversity be maintained (“social innovation and collaboration within the sector and with other social welfare providers”)?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Case studies

Component 5: Innovation

Outputs

- Case studies describing innovation in relation key areas of investigation, e.g., funding arrangements, procurement

Products

- Working paper on innovations and excellence - case studies

Component 6: Analysis, Interpretation, Considerations

Areas to be covered	Methods
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How should Commonwealth funds be best used (e.g. targeted to gaps, special initiatives, adding intervention capacity to existing systems, general)?• Is there duplication of funding?• What process of planning and contracting services would best meet needs, in terms of efficiency, simplicity and the ability to fill gaps?• What funding arrangements are recommended?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Analysis, review, consultation

Outputs and products

Draft and final reports

Put Simply...

We are exploring

- Who gets funded, from what sources, for what interventions
- The gap between what is provided and what is needed
- Planning and reform processes
- Different approaches to funding and procurement and associated directions

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We are doing this by

- Seeking input from AOD sectors (via peaks), state and commonwealth drug policy representatives
- Learning about relevant national structures, from Medicare Locals to Hospital and Health Services and substantial funding streams such as those in the Department of Social Services
- Using existing information, such as that from the NMDS and from BEACH, and from the DA-CCP
- Testing and refining our interpretations of the data

Consultation Strategy

Active consultation will occur across the life of the project, through a variety of mechanisms:

- The Advisory Committee – quarterly meetings;
- Commonwealth Department of Health project team – fortnightly meetings;
- Working Papers - distribution of edited versions for comment from stakeholders across the sector;
- Peak bodies review of rapid assessment data;
- State/territory health department review of rapid assessment data;
- Engagement with peak bodies, review and reflections throughout;
- Consultation session with peak bodies;
- The ‘critical friends’ group;
- Ongoing regular communications throughout the life of the project with people across the sector.

Communication Strategy

- Working papers form the core of the communication and broader consultation strategy – giving stakeholders access to the workings and analysis of the review team throughout the 12 months.
- Formal communiques will be issued by the Commonwealth at timely intervals.
- Wherever possible, the research team will provide appropriate updates to the sector through regular meetings, conferences, postings, etc.
- Advisory committee members will communicate about the project through their existing networks, for example:
 - ADCA will provide updates to the sector through ADCA Update and their bulletins;
 - AIVL will keep consumer groups across Australia advised;
 - ANCD will keep a variety of stakeholders advised;
 - Peak bodies will manage communications across their sector networks.

Some areas the working papers will cover

Met and unmet demand

Services

Spatial dimension to AOD health planning

'Hidden' services

Service planning

Gap analysis

Funding approaches

Access these papers at the DPMP Project Website:

<http://www.dpmp.unsw.edu.au/resource/review>

For further information

Contact us

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