



improvement foundation
Australia

Complex Scenario

Presented by Colin Frick



Collectively your table is made up of board and executive members from the Superior Health for our People Network (SHoPN) which used to be called the Middle to West Division of General Practice but has recently changed its name and brand to ensure that its focus on local health is clear.

SHoPN has been negotiating the core funding agreement with the Department and the new agreement includes a requirement to ensure that 100% of general practices in your region have valid electronic registers for CHD and Diabetes and that they are effectively using electronic recall and reminder systems. There is no direct policy support in this regard and 50% of your core funding in subsequent years is dependant on achieving this result. A reduction of this nature would place SHoPN at material risk, or at least in a situation where significant service reduction would result.

To add context, SHoPN is located in the urban area and has 60 practices and 208 GPs in the geographic area considered the SHoPN region (3.47 avg GP FTE). Of the 60 practices, 42 (70%) are SHoPN members, 12 are already actively engaged with SHoPN and are providing data which is derived through accurate registers in both CHD and Diabetes (the 12 practices were previously involved in the APCC Program). Of the practices in the SHoPN area, 58 are considered to be electronic but data quality is variable (2 are paper based).

From a financial perspective, and despite what other's think, SHoPN is sound and there's money in the bank. However, there is not a lot of budget available but you have been able to identify \$60K you could allocate to discretionary projects.

This change to funding conditions has been known to SHoPN and other Divisions for a while and representations to the Department ,and to the Minister, to have this approach abandoned or materially altered have proven unsuccessful.

Your group needs to identify strategies to address this scenario. What will SHoPN do?