

HTA Team  
Protocol Advisory Sub-committee,  
Medical Services Advisory Committee  
Department of Health

By email - [HTA@health.gov.au](mailto:HTA@health.gov.au)

Dear HTA Team,

**Shared Medical Appointments for Type 2 Diabetes Management – Consultation Protocol (MSAC Application 1385)**

The Australian Primary Health Care Nurses Association (APNA) wishes to provide feedback to the Medical Services Advisory Committee on its consultation regarding shared medical appointments (SMAs) for management of Type 2 diabetes mellitus and pre-diabetes.

APNA's general view on SMAs is that we would welcome any new model of care that allows a primary health care nurse to operate capably and practically within his/her scope of practice. The SMA model has the potential to promote both team-based care and improve access, particularly to patient education. This model also has the potential to promote local community patient peer support networking.

**About APNA**

APNA is the peak professional body for nurses working in primary health care including general practice. APNA's vision is for a healthy Australia through best practice primary health care nursing.

With over 4,000 members, APNA provides primary health care nurses with a voice, access to quality continuing professional development, educational resources, support and networking opportunities. APNA continually strives to increase awareness of the role of the primary health care nurse.

Nurses are a substantial component of the primary health care workforce. These nurses play a major part in improving health outcomes. Primary health care nurses deliver quality chronic disease management, immunisation services, and other preventative care, as well as curative care, and care for the ageing. They deal with issues such as medicines safety and implement improvements in primary health care systems. Nurses are key players in primary health care teams, and have a critical role in maintaining safe, high quality healthcare.

Yours faithfully,



**Karen Booth**

President  
Australian Primary Health Care Nurses Association (APNA)