

A pathway to better health outcomes

New GP portal to be launched by Murray Primary Health Network

GPs and other health professionals in central and northern Victoria will soon have access to a free, web-based portal with information on best practice health care plus local specialist and hospital referral pathways.

[Murray HealthPathways](#), which aims to improve the quality of patient care across the region, will be launched at 10am on Wednesday 9 November at Ulumbarra Theatre Bendigo.

HealthPathways stores extensive, updated health information and referral pathways that will help coordinate better access to primary health, closer to people's homes. By improving the standards of care and minimising variations in treatment, HealthPathways will also help reduce unnecessary hospital visits – estimated at more than 71,000 bed days each year across the [Murray PHN](#) region.

Fifty local pathways have been developed in partnership with regional hospitals, GPs, community health services, allied health professionals and specialists, based on population health and local needs. Major hospital partners include Albury Wodonga Health, Bendigo Health Care Group, Goulburn Valley Health, Mildura Base Hospital, and Northeast Health Wangaratta,

More than 65 health professionals have taken part in nine clinical working groups, with another 80+ pathways now in development. Work will continue to build an estimated 900 clinical and resource pathways, with clinicians being encouraged to suggest new pathways or feedback for regular reviews.

Wednesday's launch will be attended by key members of the region's health community and guest speaker will be [Dr Rob Grenfell](#), the new Health Director of CSIRO's Health and Biosecurity Business Unit. Dr Grenfell will speak about the importance of reducing the differences in care that Australians receive in different locations and settings.

Murray PHN CEO Matt Jones described HealthPathways as a major, ongoing commitment to clinicians in the Murray PHN catchment. "Murray HealthPathways gives us a tangible way to address the fragmentation of our health systems," he said. "By bringing the health sectors together, we hope to strengthen the collaborative relationships between our organisations and work towards a more 'connected' system that improves patient outcomes."

Contact details

Media attending the launch should arrive at Ulumbarra by 9.45am to set up. For further details, or to request an interview contact Jackie Grant, Communications Coordinator

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