



Victorian Healthcare
Association

Member Bulletin

NBN-ENABLED TELEHEALTH PILOTS PROGRAM

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Dear Member,

Health services have today been invited to apply for funding for the Commonwealth Government's NBN Enabled Telehealth Pilots Program. The Program will provide \$20.6 million funding over the next two years for innovative telehealth pilot projects, with a focus on aged, palliative or cancer care services.

Organisations wishing to apply must be incorporated to be eligible for funding. No restrictions apply on government agencies applying for funding, but these organisations must provide evidence of matched funds. Applications will be accepted from consortia of organisations, but consortia must identify a lead organisation. Activities or equipment that duplicate existing initiatives, long-term or ongoing funding of routine service delivery and activities that benefit only a sole individual or organisation, not the wider community, will not be funded.

The Program seeks to develop and trial services that demonstrate how:

- Telehealth services can be delivered to the home in new and innovative ways
- Patient-centred health outcomes are improved
- Health services, including allied health services, can become more accessible
- Health related transport needs can be reduced
- Consumers can collaborate and communicate with their carers and health service providers to improve quality of care, health outcomes and quality of life
- Telehealth services can improve early identification of health issues and reduce unnecessary hospitalisation
- Telehealth services are scalable and able to provide an increased volume of care without a corresponding increased cost
- Location dependent or regional health workforce skills shortages can be mitigated
- Telehealth can ensure appropriate care pathways and provide patients with self-enabling programs and coaching to improve overall health outcomes

For further information, guidelines and the application form, please see the Department of Health and Ageing [website](#). The deadline for applications is 2pm on 17 May 2012.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Trevor Carr'.

Trevor Carr
Chief Executive

