

# NSW Dementia Action Plan 2007-2009

Improving the Management of Cognitive Impairment for Older  
People

17 – 18 April 2008

# Ageing Population and Dementia Prevalence



# Priorities for Action

- Developed following a review of previous plans and the national direction provided through the *National Framework for Action on Dementia 2006 - 2010*.
- The third State dementia plan adopts the Framework's five key priority areas and focuses on NSW's implementation:
  - 1: Diagnosis and Assessment, Care and Support Services
  - 2: Access and Equity
  - 3: Information and Education
  - 4: Research
  - 5: Workforce and Training

# Key initiatives - NSW Health

- Review Dementia Clinical Nurse Consultant (CNC) positions in Area Health Services (AHSs)
- Increase number of Dementia Community Nurses per AHS
- Develop Dementia Services Planning Framework
- Establish dementia training strategies for health professionals

# Key initiatives – DADHC

- Increase dementia specific HACC services, such as centre based day care
- Continue to fund Dementia Advisory Services and support the Professional Dementia Network
- Develop a Culturally & Linguistically Diverse (CALD) dementia strategic model
- Promote dementia screening for people with intellectual disabilities

# Priority Area 1:

- **Diagnosis and Assessment, Care and Support Services** that are flexible and can respond to the changing needs of people with dementia, their carers and families.
  - Service Planning
  - Primary Health
  - Acute Care
  - Palliative Care
  - Behavioural Issues

## Priority Area 2:

- **Access and Equity** to dementia information, support and care for all people with dementia, their carers and families regardless of their location or cultural background.
  - Barriers to Access
  - People from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Backgrounds
  - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People

## Priority Area 3:

- **Information and Education** that is evidence-based, accurate and provided in a timely and meaningful way.
  - Release and promote the Interagency Protocol for Responding to Abuse of Older People
  - Develop Protocols for Aged Care Assessment Teams (ACATs) and other relevant health workers to respond to complex situations of abuse
  - Develop a training model to build advance care planning expertise in targeted health professional groups
  - Support evidence based education strategies to reduce risk factors and promote healthy ageing

## Priority Area 4:

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- **Research** into prevention, risk reduction and delaying the onset of dementia as well as into the needs of people with dementia, their carers and families.
  - Promote awareness of research outcomes through sponsorship of dementia conferences and workshops and partnerships with existing research centres

## Priority Area 5:

- **Workforce and Training** strategies that deliver skilled, high quality dementia care.
  - Support training of health workers in high quality dementia care
  - Work with the Workforce Development and Leadership Branch, NSW Health to identify, promote, and address dementia related workforce issues

# Reporting

- NSW Health and Department of Ageing Disability & Home Care (DADHC) will use the existing reporting mechanisms to monitor the implementation of the third dementia plan through regular reporting to the following:
  - The DADHC/NSW Health Senior Officers Group
  - The NSW Health Chronic, Aged and Community Health Priority Taskforce (CACH HPT)
  - HACCC reporting mechanisms

# The NSW Dementia Action Plan



Download a copy at:

[www.health.nsw.gov.au/policies/index.html](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/policies/index.html)