

# Mental Health Information Development

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## **Eighteen years ago....**

- **Limited information about mental health services available to the public**
- **Lack of a consistent mental health data collection about what services are delivered and who receives them**
- **Local mental health clinical information systems were not in place or underdeveloped**
- **There was no information base to monitor changes in mental health care**



- **1992 - Australian health ministers endorsed the National Mental Health Strategy and agreed to the original National Mental Health Policy**
- **First National Mental Health Plan 1993-1998**
- **Second National Mental Health Plan 1998-2003**
- **Third National Mental Health Plan 2003-2008**
- **COAG National Action Plan on Mental Health 2006-2011**
- **2008 – A revised National Mental Health Policy 2008**
- **Fourth National Mental Health Plan 2009-2014**



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- **National Mental Health Strategy recognised that the lack of quality information and absence of consistent data collection restricted mental health service reforms**
  - **Mental health information development has been central to National Mental Health Strategy and Plans**



- **First National Mental Health Plan 1993-1998 focussed on State/Territory based public sector specialist mental health services and can be described from an information development perspective as the “research and development” phase**
- **Second National Mental Health Plan 1998-2003 was designed to consolidate ongoing reform activities and added a focus on mental health promotion and illness prevention**






**The Second National Mental Health Plan introduced new priorities for mental health information development:**

- **Strengthening focus on consumer outcomes**
- **Supporting improvements in service quality**
- **Shifting the focus of concern from cost to value for money**
- **Improving understanding of population need**



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- **Significant investments to develop mental health information and information infrastructure**
  - **National Outcome and Casemix Collection**
  - **Implementation of the WA Mental Health Information Development Plan**
    - **PSOLIS – Phase 1**
    - **Clinical Training Program in the nationally agreed consumer outcome measures**
    - **Business Process Re-engineering**



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- **Third National Mental Health Plan 2003-2008 built on the work of the two previous plans with a particular focus on promotion and prevention, consumers and carers, quality, research and innovation**

**Three key information development challenges:**

- **Moving from information collection to information use**
- **From projects to sustainable systems**
- **Responding to new policy drivers**



1. Using outcome measurement to improve mental health care
2. Further development of a mental health casemix classification
3. Using information to improve safety in mental health care
4. Establishing performance indicators and benchmarking in mental health services
5. Strengthening workforce uptake and capacity to use information
6. Improving national minimum data sets for mental health care
7. Information to support mental health care provided external to the specialist sector
8. Monitoring population mental health and wellbeing
9. Information to support mental health prevention and promotion
10. Monitoring and reporting of progress under the National Mental Health Strategy



- **National Action Plan on Mental Health 2006-2011**  
4 billion over 5 years, governments working together, care coordination, increased accountability requirements
- **Revised National Mental Health Policy 2008, Fourth National Mental Health Plan 2009-2014 - a whole of government partnership approach with five priority areas:**
  1. Social inclusion and recovery
  2. Prevention and early intervention
  3. Service access, coordination and continuity of care
  4. Quality improvement and innovation
  5. Accountability – measuring and reporting progress





- **Quality improvement and innovation**

**Outcome: The community will have access to information on service delivery and outcomes on a regional basis. This will include reporting against agreed standards of care including consumer and carer experiences and perceptions**

- **Accountability – measuring and reporting progress**

**Outcome: The public will be able to make informed judgements about the extent of mental health reform in Australia.....**

**Consumers and carers will have access to information about the performance of services responsible for their care across the range of health quality domains**



## Other key developments


- **Nationally consistent approach to activity based funding (National Partnership Agreement on Hospital and Health Workforce Reform)**
- **The Commonwealth Government's National Health Reform Plan (A National Health and Hospitals Network: Further Investments in Australia's Health)**
- **8 March 2010 - establishment of the Mental Health Commission**





- **Undertake mental health strategic policy and planning, performance monitoring and procurement of mental health services from government, non-government and private sector service providers**
- **Work to reshape service delivery to better meet the needs of people with mental disorders**
- **Ensure that mental health resources are allocated where they are most effective and most needed**
- **Promote social inclusion, raise public awareness of mental wellbeing**
- **Work towards reducing stigma and discrimination surrounding mental illness**





**“We want our future health system to be powered by the smart use of data and enabled by the electronic flow of essential information between individuals and the health professionals from whom they seek care and advice. There should be a passionate commitment to measure and improve health and performance outcomes with transparent reporting customised for all ‘users’ – consumers, health professionals, funders and governments.”**

**A Healthier Future For All Australians  
Final Report June 2009  
Dr Christine Bennett**



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Mental Health Commission**





# Thank you



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