



AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE  
OF HEALTH POLICY STUDIES

National Health Policy Roundtable

# Purchasing Prevention: making every cent count



**Roundtable Program**

**PriceWaterhouse Coopers,  
Freshwater Place  
2 Southbank Blvd  
Southbank, Melbourne  
8<sup>th</sup> August 2006  
9:00am – 4pm**

## Roundtable Presenters

**Mr Jeff Kennett** was the Premier of Victoria from 1992-1999 .

Under his leadership, the Victorian Coalition was elected to Government on October 3, 1992, with two-to-one majorities in both Houses of Parliament - a position unparalleled in almost 140 years of responsible State Government in Victoria. In the Government's first term, Mr Kennett held the positions of Premier and Minister for Ethnic Affairs.

He headed the Government's peak industry organisations - the Ministerial Industry Council, Premier's Business Round Table, Victorian Communications and Multimedia Task Force and Food Victoria, and chaired the Science, Engineering and Technology Task Force. He is currently the Chairman of beyondblue (National Depression Initiative)



**Dr Joan Stieber** is a lawyer and senior health policy analyst in the Office of Legislation, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services in Washington, D.C. She is responsible for monitoring and analysing key Medicare legislation, including health promotion and preventive health initiatives, and is the contact with Congressional staff on these issues. As a 2004-2005 Packer Policy Fellow, she compared the coverage of prevention services in Australia and U.S. Medicare, and efforts to apply evidence-based decision-making processes to prevention. She undertook this project at La Trobe University.



**Rob Montefiore Gardner** is the Manager of Health Policy Unit in the Australian Government Treasury. The Health Policy Unit provides advice to the Government and the Treasurer on all aspects of the health and aged care system, including public health, Medicare and hospitals funding, private health insurance and the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme. The unit is currently working closely with the Department of Health and Ageing in developing options to address diabetes. Mr Montefiore Gardner trained as an economist, and he graduated from the Australian National University with first class honours. He has extensive experience in providing advice to government on social policy issues, and prior to managing the Health Policy Unit his recent work included developing policy responses to the ageing of the population, focussing on increasing participation in the workforce.



**Dr Rob Moodie** has been CEO of the Victorian Health Promotion Foundation since 1998. He graduated in medicine from the University of Melbourne in 1976 and later trained in Tropical Medicine at Paris University and Public Health at Harvard University.

Since 1979 he has worked for Save the Children Fund, Medecins Sans Frontieres, Congress (the community-controlled Aboriginal Health Service in Alice Springs), and for WHO, UNDP and UNAIDS in Uganda, Cameroon and Geneva.

Dr Moodie is Chair of the Premier's Drug Prevention Council, a member of several boards, and he has professorial appointments in public health at Melbourne and Monash Universities. He is co-editor of three books, including *Hands on Health Promotion*. Dr Moodie was named 2005 Victorian Father of the Year by the Father's Day Council of Victoria for his work in promoting community health.



**Assoc. Professor Theo Vos** is Director of Centre for Burden of Disease and Cost-Effectiveness at the School of Population Health of the University of Queensland. The Centre aims to provide health policy makers with best available evidence to guide the allocation of resources. He has carried out burden of disease studies in Mauritius and Victoria and has made major contributions to the national Australian study and studies in Zimbabwe, Thailand, South Africa and Malaysia. He is leading the update of the Australian Burden of Disease study including for the first time an Indigenous study. He has also led cost-effectiveness studies in the areas of cardiovascular disease and mental disorders. He is currently directing two large economic evaluation projects:

- the ACE-Prevention project which over the coming five years will model the cost-effectiveness of 100 prevention options for non-communicable disease in Australia; and
- the SPICE project in Thailand examining intervention options for HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis, mental disorders, lifestyle risk factors and road traffic injuries.



**Dr Sharon Willcox** is currently the Director of Health Policy Solutions, an independent health consulting company. Prior to this, she had 20 years experience in health public policy in the Victorian, New South Wales and Commonwealth health departments. Her roles have included leading the policy development for the National Health Strategy in the early 1990s on issues including new funding models for general practice, negotiating for Victoria the 1998-2003 and 2003-2008 Australian Health Care Agreements for funding public hospitals and contributing to national performance frameworks for the health system. She recently completed her Doctor of Public Health on private health insurance regulation. Dr Willcox has also worked in the United States on health policy and financing issues, as a Harkness Fellow in Health Care Policy in 1999-2000 and as a Visiting Scholar at the Centre for Health Program Studies at Harvard in 1992-1993.



# Roundtable Program

**Facilitator:** Dr Norman Swan

**8.45**            **Tea/Coffee**

**9.00**            **Welcome and Introductions**

 Mr John Biviano- Chair

 Dr Norman Swan

## **Presentations\***

**9.15**            **Mr Jeff Kennett**

*From Politics to Prevention*

**9.55**            **Dr Joan Stieber**

*Preventive Health Care in Australia: The Shape of the Elephant, Reliance on Evidence, and Comparisons to U.S. Medicare*

**10.35**           **Morning Tea**

**10.50**           **Mr Rob Montefiore Gardner**

*Economics of Prevention – counting the costs*

**11.30**           **Dr Rob Moodie**

*Is an ounce of prevention really worth a pound of cure?*

**12.00**           **Assoc. Prof Theo Vos**

*Opportunities for Prevention – can cost effectiveness set priorities?*

**12.40**           **Lunch**

**1.20**            **Dr Sharon Willcox**

*Evidence for Prevention – priorities and barriers*

**1.50**            **Workshop – small break-out groups**  
**Feedback and group discussion**

**3.00**            **Afternoon Tea**

**4.00**            **Close of Roundtable**

**5.00**            **Cocktail function**

*\*Each presentation will be followed by 15-20 minutes of discussion*

# About AIHPS

The **Australian Institute of Health Policy Studies (AIHPS)** is a national institute devoted to studying the ways in which health policy can improve the health of all Australians. This Institute also aims to improve Australia's capacity for health policy research and to contribute to improved interaction between the relevant government, non-government and health industry partners.

AIHPS is not based in a single institution, but rather, it harnesses the research capacity, policy and other expertise coming from a number of universities and other organisations from right around Australia, as well as many other health and non-health industry organisations from the government, non-government and private sectors.

AIHPS is focused on developing research programs and an improved evidence base that will lead to better long-term decision-making and health policy in this country. These will lead to improvements in the Australian health care system and the health of the Australian people, by:

- Synthesising and reviewing existing research in the field;
- Critically reviewing existing policy and practice;
- Identifying, conducting and/or commissioning relevant new research;
- Identifying opportunities for improvements in and evaluations of health policy at a state, national and international levels

The AIHPS research program is comprised of five policy-relevant research streams that build on existing strengths within AIHPS' research network.

The proposed research streams include:

- **Engaging consumers** in health
- Getting the most from **prevention**
- Improving **chronic disease** outcomes
- **Priority Setting** (in healthcare policy and planning)
- **Workforce** for the Australian healthcare system in the 21st century

In 2006, AIHPS will continue to undertake research and work in each of the 5 research streams and will also hold a number of key events, including further Roundtable events and health policy workshops.

For more information on how to become involved with AIHPS, the AIHPS research program and future events please visit [www.aihps.org](http://www.aihps.org) or email [info@aihps.org](mailto:info@aihps.org)