**PRACTICE CONSENT FORM**

**TITLE:** Quality in General Practice - trial of a funding model in primary care.

INVESTIGATORS

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We have been given information about the research project “Quality in General Practice- trial of a funding model in primary care” and have read and understood the information.

We have been advised of any possible risks or burdens associated with this research and have had the opportunity to ask the investigators any questions we may have about the research and my participation.

We understand the participation of the practice is voluntary; we are free to refuse to participate and are free to withdraw from the research at any time. If the practice declines to participate or withdraws consent our relationships with the University of Wollongong, Monash University or the University of Tasmania will not be affected.

We understand that the practice will be randomised to an intervention or control group. The intervention group will trial an alternate approach and the control group will deliver usual care.

We understand that if the practice chooses to participate in this study, we will be asked to:

* Manage enrolled patients (n=50) as per the requirements of the intervention (alternate care) or control group (usual care). This will be determined by practice level randomisation which will occur before patient recruitment – therefore we consent to the practice being randomised
* Complete a Practice or Practitioner Attributes survey at commencement and end of trial.
* Agree to the installation and use of the MedicineInsight data management program which will be used by researchers to collect baseline, 6 month and 12 month data. There is no cost to the practice and MedicineInsight runs alongside – not replacing – existing practice management software.
* Provide access to quality improvement education materials supplied in hardcopy and online formats, a quality improvement manual and education sessions.

We understand that a consenting practice nurse will be asked to:

* Recruit a cohort of 50 patients. Recruitment methods include search of practice database to identify eligible patients (usually undertaken by practice nurse/manager) and posting out provided information packs to 200 potential participants.
* GPs, Practice Nurses or other staff may be asked to engage in direct recruitment (handing information packs to eligible patients) if required.
* Invite identified patients (via a letter template) to participate in the study.
* Conduct baseline data collection regarding demographics & primary diagnoses, preferred provider (GP) nominated for the study, hospitalisation details (when & why hospitalised, time elapsed between hospitalisation and follow up).
* Conduct quarterly audits of patient database to extract data regarding number of consults, length of consults, MBS item numbers, whether preferred provider for each consultation, hospitalisation details (when & why hospitalised, time elapsed between hospitalisation and follow up), occurrence of same day access (for <16s only) and mortality.

And, if randomised to the intervention group may be involved in:

* Patient induction with the Practice Nurse to occur either face-to-face, over the phone, in group information sessions or via a combination of these. Patients will discuss with the nurse: enrolling with a preferred provider; information about the study; accessing longer consultations or same day access (for patients under 16 years and their guardians).
* Practice staff including practice nurses may be invited to take part in a 30 minute qualitative interview to understand the practice’s approach to access, relational continuity and on approaches to prioritisation of clinical activity.

We understand that consenting GPs will be asked:

* to organise patient enrolment with their preferred GP or micro-team of GPs
* that enrolled patients are guaranteed access for to a minimum of three longer appointment types over a twelve month period
* that enrolled patients attend a review visit for within 7 days of admission to either an emergency department /hospital attendance or other significant health event
* that enrolled patients aged under 16 are seen on the same day as requested for acute conditions

Staff from practices in the intervention group may be asked to take part in a 30 minute qualitative interview to understand clinicians, and where possible, the practice’s approach to access, relational continuity and on approaches to prioritisation of clinical activity.

If you would like to participate please sign on the following page.

By signing below we are indicating consent for this practice to participate in the research.

Practice Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Practice Principal/Owner/Responsible Officer (name, please print):

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Practice Principal/Owner/Responsible Officer (signature):

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Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Practice Manager: (name, please print): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Practice Manager: (signature): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Individual GP’s and practice nurses have a choice to consent to participate in this study and will be provided with and may return separate consent forms to this effect.