

health & wellness

Informatics in Biology and Medicine

GAP Forum
Melbourne, December 2003

Better Health Care through Electronic Information

GAP Forum
Sydney, September 2004

Australian National Consultative Committee on Electronic Health

Inaugurated in 2005
Projects 2005 - 2009

- ▶ Connected Health
- ▶ Tasmanian Collaborative Project
- ▶ Chronic Disease Broadband Service
- ▶ Privacy and Security in e-Health

Wellness & Ageing: "Breaking the Barriers: The role of Government, Industry, Providers & Consumers"

GAP Congress
Melbourne, February 2007

Implementing a Rational e-Health System in Australia

GAP Workshop Series
Canberra, 2007

National Pharmacogenomics

GAP Roundtable Series
Sydney, 2007 - 2008

Cabinet Meeting with Tony Abbott

Sydney, October 2008

Wiki Oncology

GAP/ Open Forum project 2008-2009

Health Information Exchange

GAP / Information Integrity Solutions project
Sydney, 2008 - 2009

Australia's Health Task Force

GAP / Australian Centre for Health Research project
Melbourne, 2008 - 2009

Australia's Health

GAP/ACHR Congress 2009

Global Access Partners' initiatives in the area of health and wellbeing over the last 5 years have ranged from discussions of national health policy to the problems of implementing an Australia-wide e-health infrastructure and the potential applications of genetic testing in drug therapy to the management and long term funding of chronic "lifestyle" diseases in an ageing Australian population.

The need for a national strategy to develop the information processing capability of the health sector was recognised by the *2003 GAP Forum on Informatics in Biology and Medicine*. The following year, the *GAP Forum on Better Health Care Through Electronic Information* urged the adoption of robust, secure, patient-centric, network enabled health care systems to improve the sector's efficiency and individual health care outcomes.

In developing the recommendations of the 2004 Forum, GAP facilitated the formation of the *Australian National Consultative Committee on Electronic Health* in 2005. The Committee aims to explore, define and promote better patient health outcomes through the application of information technology to improve efficiency, safety and productivity. The group also provides a forum for public-private partnerships in order to promote improved execution and industry development.

Among the key projects initiated by the ANCCeH over the last three years have been the macro-national business case for *Connected Health* (Cisco-led project), the *Tasmanian Collaborative Project* (led by Robert Lippiatt, supported by the Australian Centre for Health Research), the *Chronic Disease Broadband Service* in Victoria (led by Prof Michael Georgeff, supported by the Australian Centre for Health Research), and strategic discussions on *Privacy and Security in e-Health* (led by Malcolm Crompton, Information Integrity Solutions).

Some of the Committee's major projects were presented at the *2007 GAP Congress on Wellness & Ageing - "Breaking the Barriers: The role of Government, Industry, Providers & Consumers"*, held in Melbourne in Parliament House of Victoria.

GAP continues to work with its stakeholders and partners in Government and industry to address the most challenging health issues. Among its most notable recent initiatives have been a workshop series "*Implementing a Rational e-Health System in Australia*", breakfast seminars and papers on the potential benefits of drug-specific genetic tests in individual therapy, and the development of new, technology driven approaches to support evidence based medical practice.

A cabinet-style meeting was held between former Federal Health Minister *Tony Abbott* and members of the *Australian National Consultative Committee on Electronic Health* in October 2008 to discuss the Committee's perception on e-Health as citizens and service providers and analyse the progress that has been made to date.

In 2009, the *Task Force on Australia's Health*, run by GAP in association with the Australian Centre for Health Research (ACHR), will review major aspects of proposed and possible health reforms and improvements required for the health system to effectively meet the future needs of the Australian population. This project will culminate in the *Congress on Australia's Health*, to be held in Parliament House of Victoria in July 2009.