

Stakeholder Round Table Forums - Background Reading

Melbourne – Tuesday 4th December 9:30-1pm, Perpetual, 525 Collins St QR

Sydney – Wednesday 5th December 9:30-1pm, Collective Purpose, 80 William St Woolloomooloo

The Australian Government has committed to working with the National Heart Foundation and the Stroke Foundation to develop a National Action Plan for Heart and Stroke (the Action Plan). The Action Plan will complement and build on existing Australian frameworks, such as Hearts and Minds (2017), [Birch Review of Cardiovascular Disease Programs \(2009\)](#), Time for Action (2008) and the [National Service Improvement Framework for Heart, Stroke and Vascular Disease \(2005\)](#). The Action Plan will also reflect priorities and immediately do-able and achievable actions that the Australian Government can implement.

Key priority areas identified for action include:

- Prevention and early detection
- Treatment and diagnosis
- Support and care
- Research

In attending the Forum we would like you to select one of these four priority areas as your key focus. Attendees will be divided and seated into groups concentrating on one area. It will be up to you to select the focus area best suited to your knowledge, expertise and passion - where you will have the biggest impact. Please note, there will be some opportunity to provide input in other priority areas during the Forum.

In delivering the Forum, the National Heart Foundation and Stroke Foundation are aiming to identify opportunities to significantly improve outcomes for those at risk of, living with or recovering from heart disease and stroke, and simultaneously help contain costs for government. Actions will align with key goals, such as reducing avoidable hospital admissions, premature death and the burden on our healthcare system, and reducing the immense economic and social burden created by heart disease and stroke, which currently costs the nation an estimated \$8.8 billion each year.

Prior to attending the Forum we ask you to consider the following policy documents. It is important the Action Plan align with these established frameworks:

- [National Strategic Framework for Chronic Conditions](#)
- [National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Plan 2013-2023](#)
- [WHO Global Action Plan for the Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases.](#)

The National Heart Foundation and Stroke Foundation have a suite of practical policy proposals that address significant gaps in the nation's approach to prevention, treatment and management of heart disease and stroke. Our latest joint budget submissions detail current known gaps in management of heart disease and stroke in Australia.

- [Beating Hearts – Cardiovascular policy proposals to save lives and money](#)
- [Better stroke care for all Australians](#)

Previously the National Heart Foundation and Stroke Foundation have focused on key activities including:

- Detect and manage those at risk of heart disease and stroke;
- Ensure every Australian household has someone who knows the signs of heart attack or stroke and to call 000;
- Establish an Australian Telestroke Network to ensure all Australians have access to emergency stroke treatment;
- Embed best practice clinical support and education program for health professionals;
- Close the gap on rheumatic heart disease; and
- Fund a national cardiac rehabilitation audit.

You may feel these actions in support of these activities remains important, or you may feel efforts are best directed elsewhere?

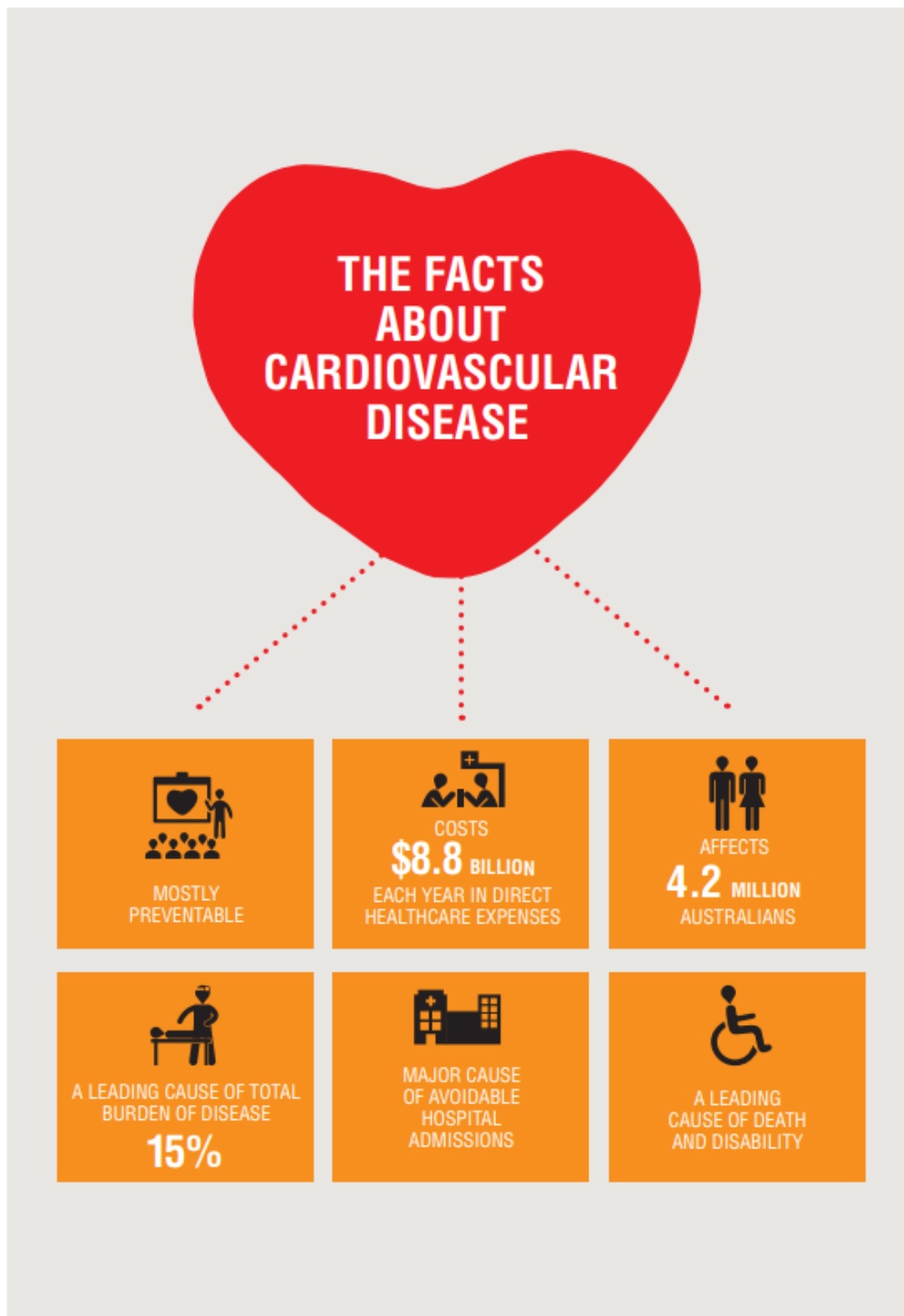
Priorities/projects/initiatives identified during the workshops should have a strong evidence base. We ask you to provide examples of evidence or literature that support your suggested actions and have been shown to create significant impact either in Australia or in a comparable international setting.

Advancements in heart disease and stroke are coming all the time. As such, please think about programs and projects proven to be working well to address heart disease and stroke in the community. These may be at a local level or state-wide. We want to know what is working well, where improvements can be made and if there is potential to expand successful programs nationally.

In considering actions to be included in the Action Plan, assessment criteria may include:

- Will the action address an unmet need or gap in our current approach?
- How many people does this have the potential to benefit?
- How cost-effective is this action?
- Is it proven, how strong is the evidence base?
- Will it be easy to implement, who/what can be the drivers for implementation?
- Will it help address avoidable hospital admissions, improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the health system?

The National Action Plan for Heart and Stroke Forum is your opportunity to be heard. Tell us the activities you feel will have the greatest impact on heart disease and stroke in our community. We look forward to your input.





Develop Australia's first
national heart & stroke
strategy



Increase the uptake of
integrated health checks
in GP settings

At a glance



Fund a national cardiac
rehabilitation audit



Deliver a national
post discharge follow up
service for stroke survivors



Expansion of walking
programs to target most
at need



Roll out a community
education campaign of
signs of stroke (F.A.S.T.)



Renew and strengthen
the National Rheumatic
Fever Strategy



Provide best practice support
and education programs to
stroke clinicians