

The use of the **Practice Health Atlas** in Australian General Practice



Delivering local health solutions through general practice

General Practice

- **95%* of GPs work in a computerised practice**
- **89%* of GPs regularly use medical software for prescribing or clinical recording**
- **Medical data widely under utilised for business and quality improvement**

* e-health from a GP perspective, Dr John Kastrissios, 2008



Practice Health Atlas

Developed by Adelaide Western General Practice Network

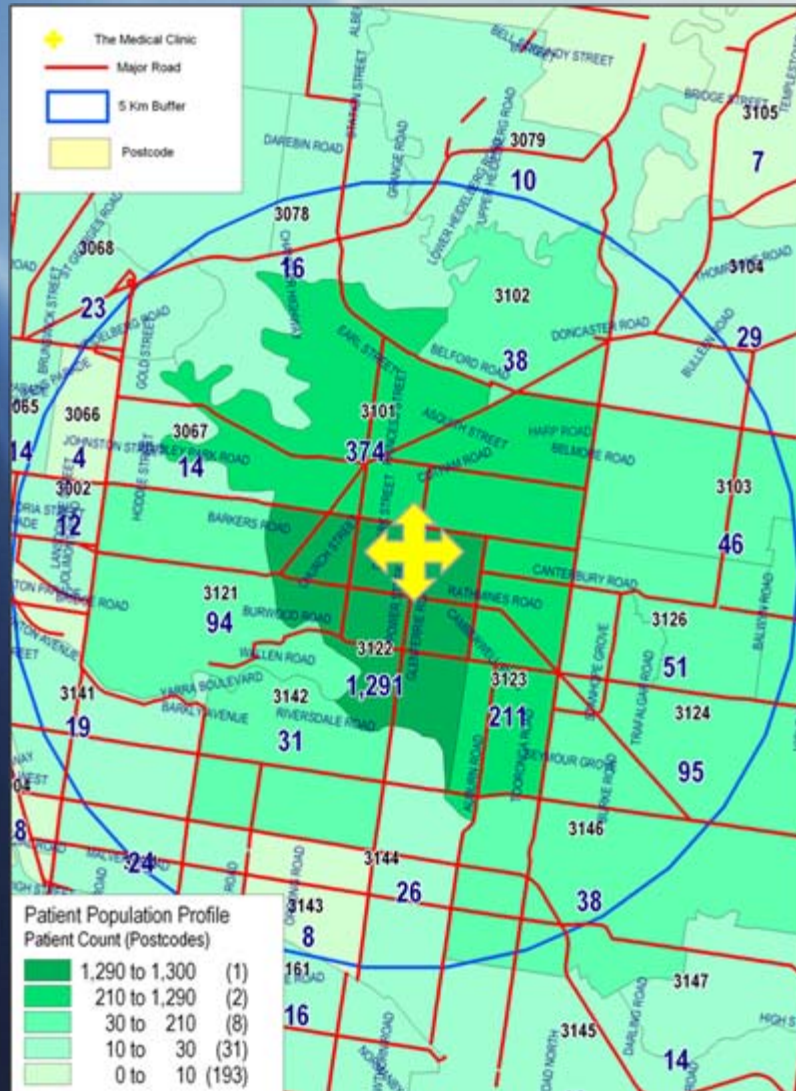


- **Extracts and synthesises practice clinical and business data**
- **Uses Geographical Information Systems**
- **Generates a comprehensive report detailing the business and clinical practice profile**
- **Delivers innovative and sustainable e-health solutions**

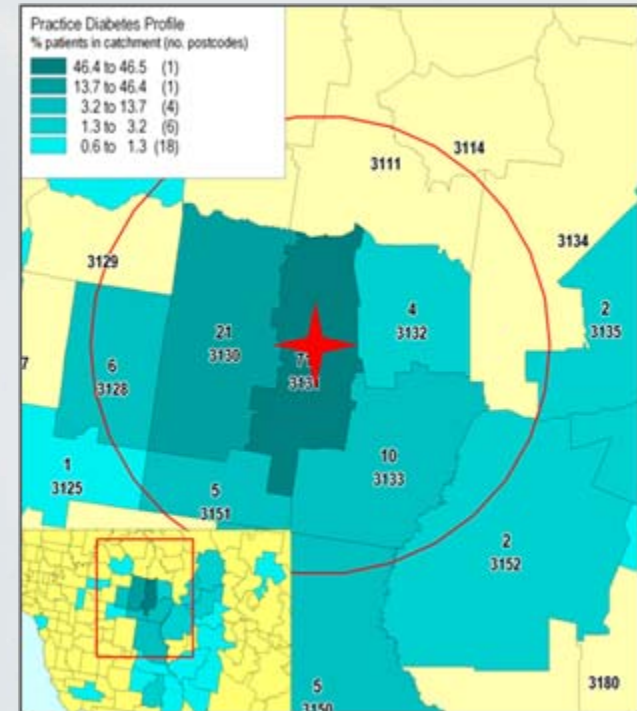


Population Health Profiling

Epidemiological Mapping



Map1 Practice Population Profile

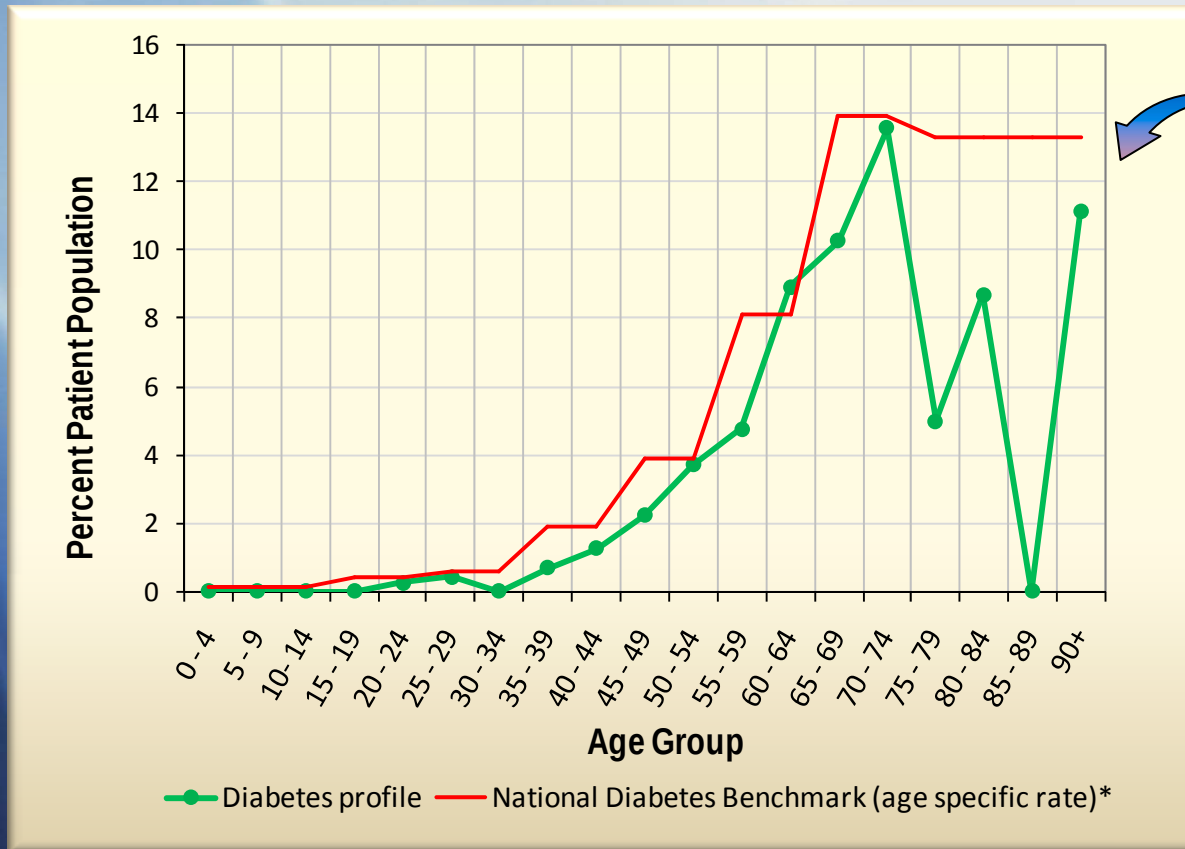


Map2 Practice Diabetes Profile



Population Health Profiling

Prevalence of Chronic Disease



The practice data is synthesized with available national benchmarks from which comparative graphs produced

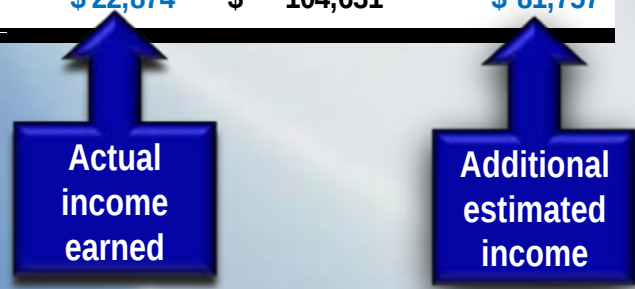
Chart 1 Prevalence of Diabetes by age group



Business Analysis



Description	Actual	Estimated	Potential
Chronic Disease Item Numbers			
Diabetes	\$ 1,745	\$ 14,147	\$ 12,403
Asthma	\$ 8,823	\$ 47,875	\$ 39,052
Mental Health	\$ 10,000	\$ 29,994	\$ 19,994
Cardiovascular	\$ 421	\$ 2,371	\$ 1,950
Bone Disease	\$ 1,885	\$ 10,244	\$ 8,359
Total	\$ 22,874	\$ 104,631	\$ 81,757



The detailed business potential is derived from the practice billing data over a 15-month period, based on the number of patients diagnosed with a Chronic condition.

Actual
income
earned

Additional
estimated
income



Quality Improvement Approach

- Implementing Change Management strategies using the *Plan Do Study Act* cycle
- Engaging GPs and Practice staff



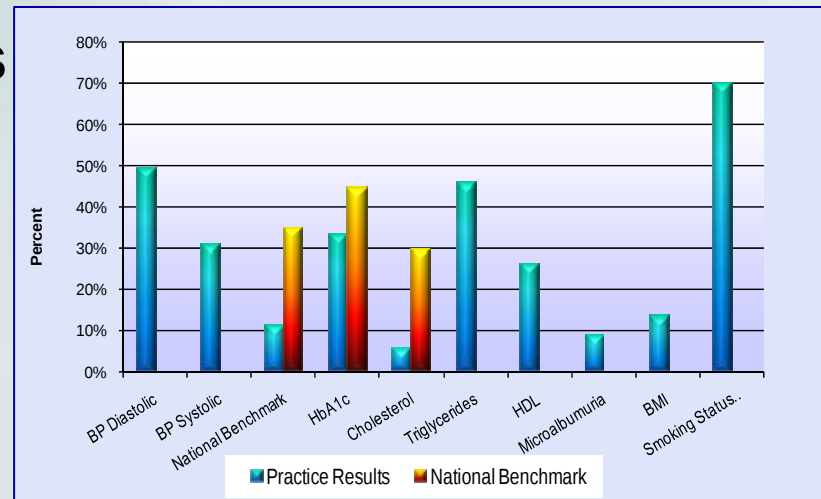
Case Study

Urban practice with 4 GPs & Practice Manager

Chart 2 Diabetes management measures by percentage of clinical criteria met

The Practice Health Atlas report indicated:

- **poor data quality**
(under-coding of Diabetes, lack of adequate pathology formatting)
- **Under utilisation of Medicare Items**
- **Low adherence to regular pathology screening**
- **Gaps in clinical management**



Case Study

Enablers

- **The report presented the practice data in a unique format**
- **Network staff interpreted the results and provided high quality feedback and follow-up support**
- **The Practice Manager was the driver for change**



Case Study

Barriers

- **GPs lacked time and expertise for change management**
- **GPs focused on patient health outcomes above business and financial decision making**
- **Practice staff lacked necessary vision to initiate systems change**



Case Study

Outcomes

- **Data Cleaning**
- **Improved diagnostic coding**
- **Hired a Practice Nurse to better utilise Medicare Chronic Disease Items**
- **Hired a Diabetes Nurse educator to provide specialised patient advice**
- **Now using Clinical Audit tools to identify at risk groups of patients**



Summary

The PHA develops a professional culture around quality health data whilst encouraging a pro-active population health care approach

E-health strategies using the PHA...

A driver of innovation in health care service delivery

