

CHF Statement on Government's Women's Health Package

Monday 10 February 2025

Consumers Health Forum of Australia (CHF) welcomes the Federal Government's new investment in women's health, which will provide more affordable and accessible healthcare for women across the country.

This package includes crucial measures such as expanded access to contraception and menopausal hormone therapies, additional PBS listings for key medications, and increased support for chronic pelvic pain management through new specialised pain clinics. These are practical steps that will have a tangible impact on women's health outcomes, ensuring they receive the care they need when they need it.

The announcement also acknowledges the systemic barriers women face in the healthcare system, including the harm caused by medical misogyny.

"CHF has long advocated for a more equitable healthcare system where women's health concerns are taken seriously and addressed with urgency." said CHF CEO Dr Elizabeth Deveny.

For health consumers, this investment represents a significant step toward reducing financial and structural barriers to essential care. Women often face prolonged delays in diagnosis and treatment, particularly for conditions like endometriosis and chronic pelvic pain.

Improved access to affordable treatments and expanded healthcare services will empower women to take charge of their health and well-being, ultimately leading to better long-term outcomes.

The power of lived experience is central to driving this change. The voices of health consumers, particularly those who have shared their stories through parliamentary inquiries and advocacy efforts, have been instrumental in shaping this package. CHF commends the government for listening to these experiences and responding with concrete action.

"We also welcome the bipartisan support and commitment to matching this funding across the chamber. It is great to see this announcement supported across the political spectrum in Parliament, demonstrating that women's health is a priority for all sides of politics." Added Dr Deveny

CHF looks forward to continuing to work with government, clinicians, and the health sector to ensure these measures are implemented effectively on behalf of consumers while continuing to amplify their voices in the decision-making process of addressing gaps in women's healthcare.

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