**Presentation title:**

*Is Australia Ready for Managed Care?*

**Abstract** (max. 300 words):

What exactly does that mean?

Are we managing the money? The patients? The providers?

Experience in the US has shown that if you do not align payer, provider and patient towards a mutual interest, it will fail.

All components of a comprehensive managed care program already exist in Australia

There is plenty of funding available, it is not distributed properly, for example 20 billion dollars spent by the government on avoidable hospital admissions, but we cannot blame our politicians, they are not on the battle field, we are, and it is our responsibility to guide them towards reforms which improve the quality of care, patient satisfaction, provider satisfaction and tax payer savings.

Our general practice is being devaluated in its scope and in its reimbursement. The program that we present has the objective to reaffirm the essential and vital profession of general practice.

Management of chronic illness outside the hospital is crucial and the role of the GP essential

We will present a hospital management model combined with an outpatient model of care, which will achieve this goal and an upward risk pool model of reimbursement which will appropriately compensate and facilitate the tasks of the primary care providers.