AMA Policy Priority		Party	
	Coalition	ALP	Greens
General practice and primary care			
Funding to support and improve the continuity of care for patients in general practice.	2019/20 Budget provided \$448.5m to support GPs to improve continuity of care for patients over 70 with chronic conditions.	No formal election policy released, although the ALP issued a press release advising that it would match the Budget funding.	Reorganise the current GP payment system, with \$1000 payments available to GP practices for each enrolled patient to compensate doctors for delivering high quality chronic disease care.
Increased support for longer GP consultations.	No election policy announcement.	No election policy announcement.	No election policy announcement.
Improved access to the after-hours GP services for patients.	No election policy announcement.	No election policy announcement.	No election policy announcement.
Specific MBS rebates for GP telehealth consultations.	No further policy announcements beyond those announced in MYEFO.	No election policy announcement.	\$180m to fund rural infrastructure and provide rural patients with access to GP and allied health services via telehealth consultations.
Support for patients with hard-to- heal wounds by funding the costs of dressings for patients.	No election policy announcement.	No election policy announcement.	No election policy announcement.
Enhanced access to GP-led teambased care for patients.	No election policy announcement.	No election policy announcement.	No election policy announcement.
Commitment to working with the profession to design and implement a more robust long-term funding model for general practice.	Will work with the various stakeholders in terms of formulating a primary health care policy into the future.	Has announced that one of the first tasks for the Health Reform Commission under an elected Labor Government would be to look at the integration of primary health care.	Develop nationwide standards and models of care for the treatment of chronic disease.

Other relevant issues:

- More funding for the PIP Quality Improvement Incentive (PIPQII) and Aged Care Access Incentive (ACAI).
- Lifting of Medicare Indexation freeze.

As part of the 2019/20 Budget:

- Provided \$201.5m to support the PIPQII.
- Announced that the ACAI will be retained.
- Committed to the lifting of the freeze on remaining Medicare items for general practice from 1 July 2019.

Implemented a heart health check item through general practice.

Commitment to end the freeze on remaining Medicare items for general practice by 1 July 2019.

Committed to fund heart health check through general practice.

Invest \$4.7b over the decade into Medicare to immediately lift the freeze in full and protect bulk billing, including investing in life saving diagnostic tests like X-rays and MRI scans.

Public Hospitals

- Boost funding for public hospital services beyond levels set out in the 2020-2025 agreement.
- Stop penalising hospitals for adverse patient safety events.
- Fully fund hospitals so they can improve patient safety and build infrastructure.
- Include an explicit ongoing Commonwealth contribution above and beyond the activitybased formula.
- Include an explicit ongoing Commonwealth contribution to fund reduction in potentially avoidable admissions.

- Health & Hospitals Program
 - \$1.25bn over 4 years from 2018-19 (Initially announced MYEFO Dec 2018. Reannounced in Budget 2019-20 \$1.25bn over 7 years) from 2018-19. Of the \$1.25bn, \$345.9m allocated 2018-19 to 2022-23.
 - Targeted to specialist hospital services, hospital infrastructure plus community-based services especially drug & alcohol treatment, mental health.

- Public Hospitals Funding Better Hospitals Fund from 2019 and over life of 2020-25 Agreement:
 - \$2.8bn 'Better Hospitals Fund' (BHF), equivalent to lifting Commonwealth contribution towards hospital funding to 50%, with 50/50 split retained beyond 2025.
 - Includes \$1bn towards infrastructure and \$250m towards elective surgery wait lists and \$250m towards ED staff and performance improvement.
- Includes \$250m Better Care
 Fund focused on safety and
 quality improvement, chronic

- Public Hospital funding increase. Legislate 50/50 funding of hospitals between Commonwealth and States -\$2.8bn to 2025.
- Create a single funding agency to stop Commonwealth and State cost shifting. \$970m over next four years.
- Public hospital capital works.
 \$100m allocated via competitive grants for urgent hospital upgrades. No detail on funding timeframe.

Fully compensate States and Territories for any loss in private patient revenue.	disease, improved discharge planning and data improvement. • Additional \$250m new funding for emergency infrastructure upgrades.	 Abolish \$6.5bn per annum PHI premium subsidy and reinvest it in public hospital system. Clear public hospital elective surgery waiting lists in the next
	 Cancer Care Package (\$2.3bn package over 4 years from 2020-21) – Public hospitals component includes: \$500m for National Partnership Agreement (NPA) on Cancer Care, to reduce waiting times for surgery and consultations in Australia's public hospitals. \$300m for better cancer centres across Australia \$50.5m for cancer nurses 	two years - no timing detail costings provided at this stage.

A futureproofed Medicare			
 Establish a Medicare Reinvestment Fund – one that ensures every cent taken out of the MBS Reviews is reinvested. Ensure there is a robust and transparent implementation process. Commit to ensuring that MBS indexation is never again frozen, and that patient rebates are indexed at an adequate rate. Commit to an enduring process for reforming and reinvesting in the MBS, beyond the current time limited MBS Review Taskforce. 	Beyond indexation and the MBS Review, no announcements related to AMA's requests to futureproof Medicare.	 Cancer Care Package (\$2.3 billion package over 4 years from 2020-21) – Medicare component includes: Introduce a new Medicare item for follow up (ie subsequent) consultations by specialist medical and radiation oncologists and cancer surgeons - \$433m. Establish a permanent and independent Australian Health Reform Commission. 	Invest \$4.7b over 10 years to lift the indexation freeze on Medicare.
Medical care for older Australians			
 Ensure quality of, and timely access to, specialist support and allied health. Introduce a mandatory minimum staff to resident ratio, including 24 hr nurses. Significantly increase Medicare rebates by 50 per cent. Provide better funding support for services being delivered on 	 Reducing the misuse of medicines in RACFs - \$7.7m (Budget 2019-20). Supporting implementation of Aged Care Workforce Strategy - \$2.6m (Budget 2019-20). 	 \$2.4bn for a Pensioner Dental Plan Funded via Medicare - Age Pensioners or Commonwealth Seniors Health Card, will get \$1,000 worth of free essential dental care, covered by Medicare, every two years. Access to culturally appropriate RACFs for migrants - \$100m. 	 Additional 50,000 level 3 and 4 HCPs - \$5.491bn. \$3bn Aged Care Workforce: Staff to resident ratios; 24/7 registered nurse (at least one); Increase hours of care per resident to 4 hrs 18 mins per day.

site (such as mobile radiology services). Introduce new telehealth Medicare items. Prevent older people from prematurely entering RACFs and hospitals by increasing the number of home care packages to reduce waiting times.	 Skills Organisation package - \$41.7m (partially for aged care as a first priority). Aged Care Workforce Research Centre - \$34 million. 	 Announced, but no costing provided: Investigate greater access and prioritisation in home care. RACFs - one 24/7 registered nurse on site, publish RACF staff skills mix. Workforce - fast-track implementation of Matter of Care workforce strategy to address inadequate staffing, consider further incentives for GPs. Make dementia, ATSI, CALD, LGBTIQ support a national priority. 	 Increase pay for aged care workers by 15 per cent. End use of restraints in RACFs.
 Private health Ensure the development of a fee transparency website that covers insurers. Consider changing policy of current rebates reverting back to the MBS figure if the gap rate is exceeded. Ensure that a future review of private health insurance addresses insurer-related gaps; indexation of rebates; variation in rebates; insurer contracts. 	No additional specific initiatives announced during Budget or Election campaign.	 Productivity Commission review of the private health system to develop long-term reforms to the private health sector. Impose a 2 per cent cap on private health insurance price rises for two years. Remove the rebate for junk / basic policies. Review out of pockets for cancer patients. Invest \$10m to establish a national standard for informed financial consent. 	 Reduce out of pocket costs, improve fee transparency, work with stakeholders to find a model. No further details provided. Removal of PHI rebate from private health insurance. No detailed costings, no timeframes.

Diagnostic imaging			
 Ensure that Medicare rebates for diagnostic imaging services are adequately funded. Introduce new MBS rebates for diagnostic imaging services. Introduce a billing system to allow patients to pay just the gap up front. Scrap the MRI licensing system. Fund referral arrangements that support better access to high quality, timely, and affordable services in regional and remote Australia. 	 Improved access to diagnostic imaging - \$231.2m in budget for: Increase the Medicare rebate for all diagnostic radiology and ultrasounds from 1 July 2020. New MBS items for breast cancer patients to claim PET and MRI scans under Medicare. Additional funding to increase total new MRI Bulk billing licenses to 50. 	 Cancer Care Package includes: Increase rebates for diagnostic imaging for cancer patients provided they are bulk billed (\$600m). Remove Medicare licensing restrictions on MRI units for cancer scans to enable bulk billed cancer scans. Establish Ministerial Working Group on Out-of-Pocket Cancer Imaging Costs to assist with the implementation of the diagnostic imaging cancer policy. Will match LNP's 50 licenses, and deliver new MRI licences – named 10 new licences and promises a further 10 if wins government (additional \$135m). ALP will match LNP's unfreezing of all other diagnostic imaging items. 	Stated support for a review of MRI licensing and improved rebates— but not costing or detail provided.
Pathology			
Ensure that Medicare rebates for pathology services are adequately funded so that patients receive quality services.	No specific announcement.	 Cancer Care Package includes \$200m for pathology bulk billing for older Australians and Australians with cancer. 	 Have stated support but not provided costing for "fully reinstate indexation on MBS payments"; investment in sustainable, diverse pathology workforce; increased investment

 Invest in a sustainable, diverse pathology workforce, including in regional areas. Increase investment in the development of a health genomics workforce and patient access to genomics-based health services in both the private and public sector. 			in health genomics workforce and patient access to genomics health services.
Mental Health			
 Base policies and funding on sound research with input from clinicians, consumers & carers. Fund and resource an appropriately sized, skilled, and resourced mental health workforce. Invest in initiatives that will build up workforce capacity and service delivery for those living in regional and remote areas. Provide increased access to e-health and telemedicine for service delivery. 	 \$503m Youth Mental Health/Suicide Prevention, \$375m to 30 extra headspaces & \$125m for Million Minds Mission. \$70.2m for residential eating disorders treatment. \$34.1m for Indigenous leadership/youth suicide) \$98.6m mental health program in schools. \$114.5m to trial new adult mental health centres. \$43.9m for a perinatal mental health. \$11.5m for Mental Health 	 Committed \$200m for headspace Plus. \$35m for early intervention services (12-25 year olds). \$29.6m to reduce Indigenous youth suicide. \$6m for Kids Helpline. \$20 million for National Plan for Eating Disorders. \$20 million for mental health nurses based on need and delivered through Primary Health Networks. 	 \$491m for assertive outreach programs. \$25m for children/young people to access group sessions of CBT & \$761m to fund online CBT. \$450m for community psychosocial services for people who cannot access NDIS. \$604m for mental health in small businesses; \$50m per year for larger businesses. \$13m for National Survey of Mental Health and Wellbeing.

Workplace Initiative.

Asylum Seekers & Refugees

- Guarantee no children and their families on Nauru and Manus and appropriate health care (access to GPs, specialists, telemedicine) provided, preferably in Australia.
- Support and fund the Independent Health Advice Panel (IHAP) and cover all costs associated with its operations.
- Continue existing policies of offshore processing and detention of asylum seekers. LNP will not bring refugees from Manus/Nauru to Australia. Will maintain the policy of boat turn-backs.
- Oppose the transfer of refugees to Australia for medical purposes.
- Maintain existing policies of offshore processing and detention of asylum seekers and will not bring refugees from Manus/Nauru to Australia. Maintain the policy of boat turn-backs.
- Will accept New Zealand's offer to resettle 150 refugees and negotiate resettlement or refugees in other countries.

- Committed to end offshore processing and detention of asylum seekers.
- Allow all asylum seekers on Manus and Nauru to be brought to Australia. End the policy of boat turn-backs.

Climate Change

- Adopt mitigation targets and develop and fund a national strategy for climate change and health.
- Transition from fossil fuel energy to renewable energy.
- Reduce exposure to air pollution and align current air quality standards with international best practice.
- Establish an Australian Sustainable Development Unit (SDU).
- Establish an Australian
 National Centre for Disease
 Control (CDC).
- Will continue to pursue a 26-38% emissions reduction target by 2030 (from 2005 levels). Main avenue for achieving reductions will be a \$2 billion Climate Solutions Fund, which will provide grants to big emitters for projects that lower their carbon footprint.
- Will set up a \$15 billion renewables fund, including funding to create Snowy Hydro 2.0.

- Will adopt a 45% emissions reduction target by 2030 (from 2005 levels).
- Will aim to have 50% of all energy powered by renewable sources by 2030. This will include a \$10b package for the Clean Energy Finance Corporation, and \$100mto support people on lower incomes invest in solar panels.
- Will adopt target to ensure 50% of 50% new vehicles sold are electric by 2030.
- Implement National Strategy on Climate, Health and Wellbeing.

- Will aim to have 90% of all energy powered by renewable sources by 2030.
 This would include the development of a publicly funded energy retailer to drive investment in renewables. Companies that use fossil fuels would cease to receive subsidies from the Government.
- Will adopt target to ensure 100% of new vehicles sold are electric by 2030.
- Have committed to implementing a National

	Will develop a national electric vehicle strategy.	 Establish a National Environmental Protection Authority. 	Strategy on Climate, Health and Well-being
Indigenous Health			
 Properly fund Indigenous health. Adopt recommendations from AMA Report Cards (end RHD, address chronic otitis media.) Fund ACCHOs according to need. Increase access to primary care & medical specialists. Address the shortfall of Indigenous health workers. Increase funding for mental health services/suicide prevention and family violence. Raise the age of criminal responsibility to 14. Commit to the Uluru Statement from the Heart. 	Budget allocated \$4.1b to the Indigenous Australians Health Program, including: \$160m to address preventable health challenges, \$35m for RHD, \$34.1m for suicide prevention/mental health initiatives and \$12.5m from the Million Minds Mission.	 Will commit \$29.6m for youth suicide/mental health. Develop an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Mental Health Plan. \$33m for RHD. \$13m to Close the Gap on vision loss. \$20m for sexual health promotion and resource. \$16.5m to promote healthy choices, including Deadly Choices campaigns. \$3m for Aboriginal Medical Services to develop justice outcomes. 	 Will raise the age of criminal responsibility to 14 years. Decommission Don Dale and Alice Springs Youth Detention Centres (NT). Invest in mental health, drug and alcohol services, and housing for young people [costings not specified]. \$10m to establish an independent National Centre for Justice Reinvestment. \$50m for a Justice Reinvestment Grants Program.
Prevention			
 Establish and support a dedicated preventive health promotion agency or organisation. Fund prevention and early intervention services. 	No overall prevention policies announced but specific policy commitments are noted in other sections.	Many prevention policies are noted in specific policy areas, but Labor will provide \$8.6m to launch a renewed sun protection awareness campaign –	 Will provide \$196m (4 years) and \$54m per year ongoing to establish an independent Preventive Health Commission to roll out

 Provide dedicated funding for a national physical activity strategy. 		encouraging the next generation of Aussie kids to slip, slop, slap.	evidence-based prevention programs. Ban all advertising and sponsoring of junk food, alcohol and gaming/betting companies at sporting events and during sports broadcasts.
 Implement a National Strategy. Introduce a tax or levy on sugar-sweetened beverages. Legislate restrictions on the marketing and promotion of junk food and soft drinks to children and adolescents. Make active transport measures a priority. Increase participation in physical activity. 	No specific announcements on obesity.	 Will implement National Obesity Strategy, including specific plans to increase physical activity and improve nutrition, and consideration of mandating the Health Star Rating system and food reformulation targets. Commit \$39m to roll out LiveLighter as the national antiobesity campaign. \$6m to restore federal funding to the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program. Reviewing junk food advertising to children. \$260m for National Bike Paths Strategy. 	 COAG pre-election (October 2018) commitment to develop a national strategy on obesity. Will implement comprehensive, evidence-based strategy to combat obesity.
Alcohol		37.77.67	
Implement National Alcohol Strategy.	No specific policy on National Alcohol Strategy or other measures.	 Will finalise a new National Alcohol Strategy (expired 2005). 	 Dedicated campaign to raise awareness of the harms of alcohol and drinking during

 Implement volumetric taxation on alcohol products. Legislate mandatory front-of-pack warnings and fund targeted advertising campaigns. Increase targeted prevention and treatment services. 		 Committed \$10m in targeted campaigns to reduce harmful drinking, such as the successful Pregnant Pause and Women Want to Know campaigns. Will work to limit alcohol advertising to children and reduce children's exposure in other settings. 	pregnancy, in order to prevent fetal alcohol spectrum disorder (FASD). Ban all advertising and sponsoring of alcohol at sporting events and during sports broadcasts.
 Fund the National Tobacco Strategy and national advertising and awareness raising campaign. Monitor and assess the evidence around the effectiveness of e-cigarettes as cessation aids. Provide appropriate funding for doctors to support patients through smoking cessation. Increase funding for the Tackling Indigenous Smoking program. 	\$20m for anti-smoking campaign. There were also specific measures to tackle Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander smoking announced in the April Budget.	 Will commit \$40m to reboot Australia's landmark National Tobacco Campaign to drive Australia's smoking rate below 10%. \$6m to support Tobacco Free Portfolios work to eliminate tobacco from investment portfolios so people aren't unknowingly contributing to tobacco profits via their superannuation and pension funds. 	 Update and fund the National Tobacco Strategy. Monitor and assess evidence around the effectiveness of ecigarettes as cessation aids. Support funding for doctors to provide patients with appropriate advice about smoking cessation.
Immunisation ■ Ensure new vaccines recommended by ATAGI and PBAC be included on the NIPS.	Budget committed \$39.5m for whooping cough vaccine for pregnant women.	 Supports current immunisation programs. 	Support current immunisation programs.

 Continue support for No Jab No Pay. Target those geographic areas known to have low levels of immunisation. Consider the potential benefits of a no-fault vaccines compensation program. 	 \$52m to expand access to the meningococcal vaccine providing protection against the ACWY strains. \$12m to extend the reach of the childhood immunisation education Campaign. 	Will commit \$21m to expand the Children's Medical Research Institute.	Consider the potential benefits of a no-fault vaccine compensation program.
Family & Domestic Violence ■ Establish effective family	Committed over \$840m	Will commit \$660m for Fourth	• Will commit \$500m por year
 and domestic violence programs and initiatives recognising issues relating to family and domestic violence within the community. Fund family and domestic violence supports and services, including housing and crisis accommodation. Flexibility and support when an employee is dealing with family and domestic violence. 	since 2013 covering: family, domestic and sexual violence, 'Recognise, Respond, Refer' pilot, \$2.1m to improve the domestic violence response of GPs and primary care workers nationally.	Action Plan, including \$60m for refuges accommodating older children and pets, \$88m Safe Housing Fund, \$90m Preventing Family Violence Legal Services Fund, \$21.5 for Family Violence Prevention Legal Centres & \$21m to double the number of Specialist Domestic Violence Units and Health Justice partnerships. • \$62m in Local Community Prevention/Service Grants. • \$60m for 20,000 Flexible Support Packages of up to \$10,000. • Paid domestic violence leave.	 Will commit \$500m per year to crisis services, which represents a significant increase in funding. Introduce domestic violence leave.
Rural health			
Provide funding and resources to support improved staffing levels and workable rosters for rural doctors.	Further funding in the 2019/20 for the National Rural Generalist Pathway.	Committed to developing a National Rural Health Strategy.	Proposal for the development of a new national Rural Health Strategy and minimum standards for service access. This includes the

Expand the successful Specialist	No election policy announcement.	No election policy announcement.	development of national minimum standards for service access in rural and regional areas. No election policy announcement.
Training Program to 1,400 places by 2021.	No election policy affiliatine fit.	No election policy announcement.	No election policy announcement.
Fund a further 425 rural GP infrastructure grants of up to \$500,000 each.	No election policy announcement.	No election policy announcement.	\$10m for a 'Rural health workforce innovation fund' to allow community organisations to use this funding to develop solutions which are appropriate to the needs of their communities.
Provide additional funding/grants to individual GPs and practices to support non-vocationally registered doctors to attain fellowship.	No election policy announcement.	No election policy announcement.	Will investigate increasing the rural bulk billing incentive.
Support further reforms to medical school selection criteria for Commonwealth-supported students and introduce changes to the structure of courses so that the targeted intake of medical students from a rural background is lifted.	No election policy announcement.	No election policy announcement.	No election policy announcement.
Medical workforce			
Regulate full-fee paying domestic and international medical student numbers, and to commit to no further increase in the total number	No election policy announcement.	No election policy announcement.	No election policy announcement.

	1		
of medical school places to address			
issues of oversupply.			
Commit to fund and resource the	No election policy announcement.	No election policy announcement.	No election policy announcement.
appropriate agencies to undertake			
the accreditation of all			
prevocational training positions.			
Work with medical colleges and	No election policy announcement.	No election policy announcement.	No election policy announcement.
jurisdictions to increase specialty			
training positions and create			
employment opportunities in areas			
of unmet community need.			
Introduction of a national system to	No election policy announcement.	No election policy announcement.	No election policy announcement.
recognise public hospital			
employment service/leave accruals			
when moving interstate.			
Supporting GP training			
Commit to an immediate review of	No election policy announcement.	No election policy announcement.	No election policy announcement.
the employment model for the GP			
training program.			