



Australian Government

Department of Health and Ageing

Investing in Rural Maternity Services

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Maternity Services Review

Focus of recommendations:

- Improving choice and access to collaborative models
- Improving the evidence base
- Facilitating a greater role for midwives
- Improving support for consumers and the maternity workforce
- 6/18 recommendations address inequality in rural, remote and Indigenous communities



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Budget initiatives

- \$120.5 million
- MBS and PBS rebates for services provided by eligible midwives
- Government-subsidised PI insurance scheme
- Expansion of MSOAP
- Extra scholarships for midwives and GPs
- Expansion of the helpline
- Improved data collection and research



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A national maternity services plan

- To be in place by November 2010
- Will involve all levels of government
- Stakeholder group soon to be established
- Availability of rural maternity services and birthing centres a priority



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Overall...

The maternity reforms:

- Build on Australia's strong S&Q record
- Support collaborative care
- Increase choice
- Value input from all stakeholders



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Thank you!

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