

Over 200+ health system leaders gathered at the Value-Based Health Care Congress in Brisbane last week to discuss the global Value-Based Health Care movement (VBHC), and what it means in the context of Australia.

Hosted by the national peak body for public healthcare, the Australian Healthcare and Hospitals Association AHHA, in partnership with the Australian Centre for Health Services Innovation and proudly supported by Queensland Government, the Congress has placed a spotlight on the role of value-based health care in transforming the health outcomes of Australians and the sustainability of the health system.

‘Value for people and communities requires collaboration. We know that integrated care cannot be achieved when organisations work in isolation. The Congress provided an opportunity for all elements of the system to come together around the common problems impacting healthcare in Australia and globally to create a shared purpose and culture that prioritises the outcomes that matter to people and communities,’ said AHHA Chief Executive Kylie Woolcock.

International Keynote speaker Dr Sally Lewis shared her experience as Director of the Welsh Value in Health Centre, NHS Wales, highlighting the importance of outcomes, ‘We need to better understand the extent to which our health and care systems are meeting the healthcare goals and outcomes of the people we serve.’

‘Data and digital transformation will be a critical component of this, but we must ensure we focus on true digital transformation, not merely digitising traditional ways of working. To effectively drive value, digital systems and data collections processes must be innovative, useable and scalable with collaboration and partnership at the heart of their creation and functionality.’

Reflecting on the discussions across the two days, Dr Lewis commented on the importance of community self-determination.

‘We need to work together to create the environments and structures that allow communities to come together to solve the wicked problems that impact their lives. They are the experts in their experience and local context, and we need to listen and elevate them to the position of leaders, experts and partners in everything we do in health care.’

‘We all have an important role to play in contributing to the bigger picture, to create a system that is designed to prioritise value focused on the outcomes that matter to people and communities.’

‘Over the two days of the Congress, we have seen the commitment towards implementing VBHC in Australia strengthen. AHHA’s Australian Centre for Value-Based Health Care is focused on driving this commitment forward, and working with stakeholders across all levels of government and the breadth of the health system to improve the outcomes of Australians,’ said Ms Woolcock.

The online version of this media release can be found on the [AHHA website](#). **The Australian Healthcare and Hospitals Association (AHHA) is the independent peak membership body and advocate for the Australian healthcare system and a national voice for universally accessible, high-quality healthcare in Australia.**

Media enquiries: Media enquiries: Kylie Woolcock, Chief Executive, AHHA, 0410 625 830

While the Congress has ended for 2023, discussions around the role of place-based value-based health care will continue to be explored as Dr Sally Lewis and AHHA CEO Kylie Woolcock travel the country over the next two weeks discussing value-based health care implementation and the contextual factors necessary to support it. To find out more, visit the [AHHA website](#).

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