HEALTH101x
Understanding the Australian Health Care System

This course will enable you to understand the workings of the Australian health care system. By following in the footsteps of patient journeys, you will gain an experiential understanding of how this multi-layered system operates in the context of the geographic, social and cultural landscapes of Australia and how to successfully navigate within this system.

This course will enable you to answer questions such as:

- Why are there multiple layers within this health care system?
- What are these layers and how are they funded?
- What is the role of insurance in this system?
- How are medicines regulated and made available in Australia?
- What services and roles are available in the Australian health care system?
- How can I facilitate patient journeys through the Australian health care system?

You will engage in many activities throughout this course to explore these and other questions.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

On completion of this course, you should be able to:

- explain the structure and layers of the Australian health care system and identify services and practitioners within it
- outline approaches to maintaining standards and how medicines and therapeutic goods are managed
- outline the roles of financing, risk and insurances and identify patient expenses
- map a patient journey within the Australian health care system
- develop skills to access reliable, up-to-date information about the Australian health care system.

AUDIENCE AND PREREQUISITES

This course is designed for students and practitioners in health-related disciplines both within Australia and globally who are interested in an overview of the Australian health care system. Learners might be currently working in Australia, considering working in Australia or studying comparative health care systems. This course may be of particular interest to individuals from the fields of medicine, public health, nursing, allied health and health-related public policy. There are no prerequisites for this course.

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COURSE OUTLINE AND FEATURES

In order to provide learning experiences for students at a variety of levels, our self-paced course contains features that should engage learners for approximately 1 to 2 hours per week. Each section of the course contains the following elements: a brief video lecture, readings, activities for application of the content, links to useful resources and a section quiz. As this is a self-paced course, all course content will be available the day the course begins.

Introduction to the Course
- Welcome
- Course Information
- Course Pre-Test
- Introduce Yourself

Topic 1: Health System Structure
- Overview
- A Patient Journey
- Primary and Community Care
- Hospital Services
- Mental Health Services
- Dental Health Services
- Word Cloud
- Section Quiz

Topic 2: Funding and Medicare
- Overview
- The Medicare Benefits Schedule
- Three Patient Journeys
- Subsidy Schemes
- Activities: Who Pays?
- Section Quiz

Topic 3: Insurance and Health
- Overview
- Types of Insurance
- A Patient Journey
- Section Quiz

Topic 4: People and Roles
- Overview
- People's Roles
- Health Professional Journeys in Australia
- Support and Advocacy Groups
- Section Quiz

Topic 5: Health Landscapes
- Overview
- Current Health of the Nation
- Geographic Impact on Health
- Culture and History
- Public Health and Research
- Section Quiz

Topic 6: Standards and Access
- Overview
- Health Literacy
- AHPRA
- Facilitating Access
- Aspects of Telehealth Services in Australia
- A Patient Journey: From Country to City
- Section Quiz

Topic 7: Medicines and Therapeutic Goods
- Overview
- Regulation
- A Patient Journey: Three Backpackers
- A Patient Journey: Something's Wrong with My Tablets
- Section Quiz

Topic 8: Mapping and Facilitating Journeys
- Overview
- Mapping Sarah's Journey
- Mapping Patient Journeys

Course Completion Activities
- Post-Test
- Course Evaluation

COURSE MARKING

In order to receive a passing mark in the course, you must achieve an overall mark of 60%, and all assignments must be completed by the date the course closes. Additionally, students who have selected the verified certificate option and have successfully been verified and who pass the course will receive a course certificate.

The following categories make up the assessment for the course and are:

PRE-TEST (UNGRADED)	0%	This ungraded test occurs at the beginning of the course. While completion of the test will not contribute to your final mark, it is a good indicator of the prior knowledge you have about the topic.
COURSE ACTIVITIES	50%	Throughout the course you will encounter brief questions and activities. Your completion of these activities will count towards your final mark in the course. You may attempt these activities multiple times.
END OF SECTION QUIZZES	50%	At the end of each section, you will find a series of questions that check your understanding of key concepts and require you to apply that understanding. You only have two attempts at each end of section quiz.
POST-TEST (UNGRADED)	0%	This ungraded test occurs at the end of the course. While completion of the test will not contribute to your final mark, it is a good indicator of the knowledge you have about the topic after you have gone through all of the materials.

DISCUSSION FORUMS

Within the discussion forums, we encourage you to engage with others in the course about issues, themes and resources. The course moderator will respond to questions you might have. If you notice an error in any course materials or a bug in course content, please notify course staff by posting in the forum. It also helps if you put [staff] in the title of your post. If, however, you are experiencing a technical problem with the edX platform, please use the Support tab on the left of each page to report your problem to edX directly.

Discussion forums are a place to learn in a friendly - if virtual - setting. Please be respectful of others in our global classroom.

HONOUR CODE AND ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

This course is offered online and we encourage collaboration and help between students, but please avoid asking for and posting final answers. Violations of the honour policy undermine the purpose of education and the academic integrity of the course. We expect that all work submitted will be a reflection of one's own original work and thoughts.

Additionally all students are expected to follow the edX Rules of Online Conduct, available at https://www.edx.org/edx-terms-service.

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