FUNDING

Subsidised health services

Subsidised health services, allow for people to be better able to receive medical attention such as, doctor and specialist consultations, pathology tests and fee-free treatment in public hospitals. These types of health services are provided through Medicare. With the assistance of Medicare, morbidity rates will begin to decrease as more people will receive treatment, especially those who may not be able to afford it otherwise.

EQUITY

As Australians have different healthcare needs, the health system must take these differences into account if it is to be equitable and fair for all people from all differing cultural and socioeconomic backgrounds.

Interventions designed to promote equity include:
- Introduction of NDIS
- Medicare Safety Net
- PBS Safety Net
- Public dental health services
- Medicare

EQUITY

Introduction of NDIS

The introduction of NDIS (National Disability Insurance Scheme) helps those with severe disabilities receive the care they need to lead an ordinary life therefore receiving the same opportunities as everyone else.

NDIS assists participants to access mainstream services, community supports, maintain informal support arrangements and receive reasonable and necessary funding. This can promote the health of those with disabilities e.g. it can reduce stress associated with not being able to afford a new wheelchair and allow them to gain the treatments they need to live an ordinary life (e.g. physio to improve their mobility).
Medicare promotes equity by providing medical care to all Australians, regardless of their ability to pay. The funding of Medicare also reflects equity as it is based on a percentage of an individual’s income, so those who earn more also pay more.

With more people being able to access health care because of Medicare, there will be a reduction of the rate of morbidity and mortality, as people are going to be able to be treated.

Public dental health services

The Victorian government funds the royal dental hospital of Melbourne and over 80 dental clinics in metropolitan and regional Victoria to provide dental treatment to vulnerable groups, such as youth, refugees and asylum seekers and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population groups. With this government support people are able to afford getting check-ups and can prevent severe damage within the mouth.
FUNDING

Funding of the health system relates to the financial resources that are provided to keep the health system adequately staffed and resources so a high level of care is available for those who need it.

**Funding assists:**
- Subsidised health services
- Personnel
- Essential medicines
- Increased access to private health services
- Public health programs

FUNDING

**Funding health care infrastructure**

Funding health care services infrastructure can mean that there are better quality hospitals, with more beds for patients, allowing more people the chance for hospital care.

It will also mean better consulting rooms and medical technologies that can help diagnose and treat medical conditions reducing morbidity rates, and improving overall health of Australia.

FUNDING

**Highly trained health professionals**

Having adequate funding assists in maintaining professional standards through ongoing training and education of doctors, nurses, surgeons etc. With trained health professionals, comes better understanding and knowledge of diseases and diagnosing them.

This prevents disease and illnesses from getting worse over time, reducing morbidity rates.