Meeting Communique – 22 October 2026

The HIV Roundtable met on 22 October 2026 in Adelaide on the land of the Kaurna people. HIV Taskforce members and guests reviewed the implementation of HIV Taskforce Report recommendations and recent developments in HIV in Australia and internationally.

The Roundtable reviewed current HIV epidemiological trends in Australia. Attendees noted Australia's continued progress towards virtually eliminating HIV transmission by 2030, while recognising the need to address disparities in HIV notifications and outcomes among priority populations.

Significant progress has been made in implementing the 25 recommendations of the HIV Taskforce Report. This includes expanded access to pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) for people who are ineligible for Medicare, longer PrEP prescription periods, expanded HIV testing initiatives, investment in community-led HIV awareness and efforts to strengthen the HIV prevention workforce.

The Roundtable agreed that implementation of the Report was progressing well and additional recommendations could now be considered closed. These recommendations relate to PrEP access and uptake, innovative HIV testing technologies and point-of-care testing, community-led HIV awareness, and partnerships with the HIV sector, multicultural organisations and First Nations organisations. These actions have either been delivered or transitioned into ongoing government programs and activities. Work on the remaining recommendations will continue through implementation of the Ninth National HIV Strategy 2024–2030 and the ongoing work of governments and the HIV sector.

Peer navigation plays an important role in supporting people with HIV to navigate health services and remain engaged in treatment and care. The Roundtable considered opportunities to improve equitable access to high-quality peer-led services across Australia.

The Australian Multicultural Health Collaborative presented findings from its Multicultural Perspectives on HIV project. The project has strengthened understanding of HIV awareness and barriers to prevention, testing and treatment within multicultural communities. The Roundtable considered opportunities to build on this work through culturally appropriate, community-informed initiatives and the co-design of HIV information and resources.

The Roundtable also considered evolving HIV epidemics in parts of the Pacific and their implications for the region. Members discussed the importance of accessible and culturally

appropriate health information, connection to HIV services, clear referral pathways, and approaches that avoid stigma and discrimination.

Next steps

With World AIDS Day approaching on 1 December, the Minister for Health and Ageing, the Hon Mark Butler MP, thanked community leaders, researchers, clinicians and government partners for their contribution to Australia's HIV response. The Australian Government will continue working in partnership with the HIV sector to implement the Ninth National HIV Strategy 2024–2030 and progress Australia's HIV response.

Chair
Minister for Health and Ageing
Minister for Disability and the National Disability Insurance Scheme
The Hon Mark Butler MP
22 October 2026