

Public Accounts and Estimates Committee

Budget Estimates Hearings Ageing Portfolio 2011 -12

Minister for Health and Ageing, Hon. David Davis MP

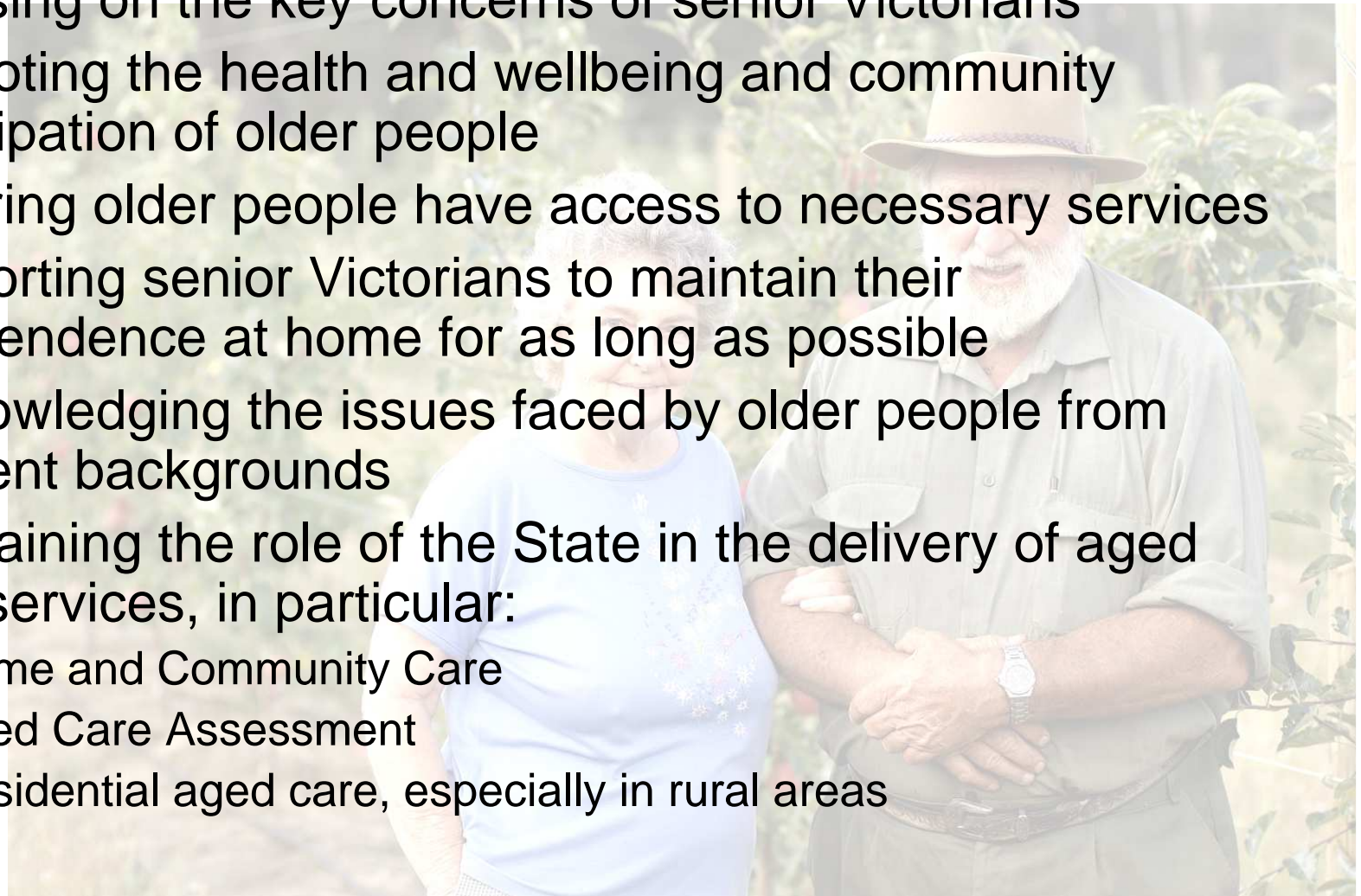
Agenda

- Planning for and supporting older Victorians to age well
- Portfolio budget summary
- Ageing portfolio 2011-12



Planning for and supporting older Victorians to age well

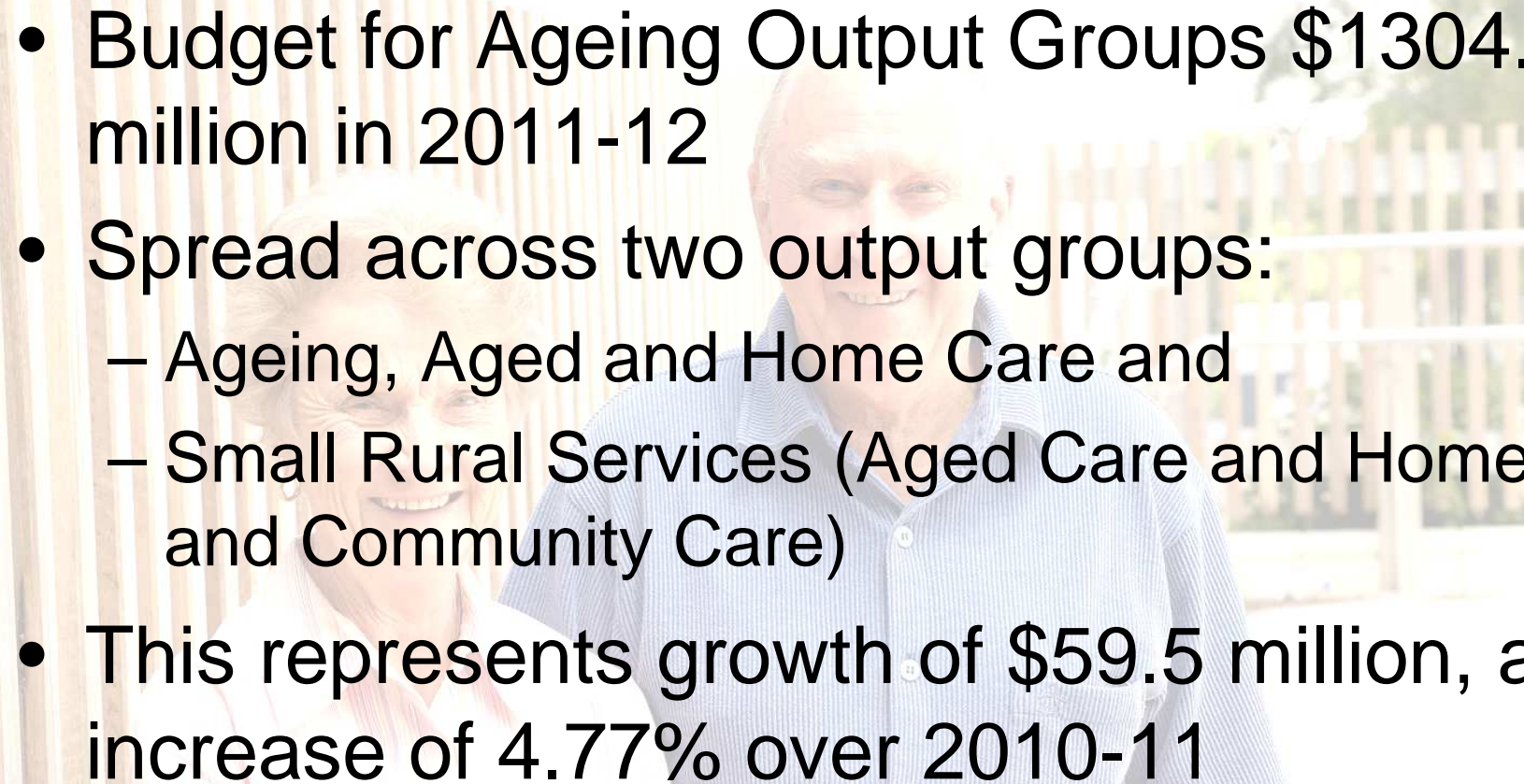
- Focusing on the key concerns of senior Victorians
- Promoting the health and wellbeing and community participation of older people
- Ensuring older people have access to necessary services
- Supporting senior Victorians to maintain their independence at home for as long as possible
- Acknowledging the issues faced by older people from different backgrounds
- Maintaining the role of the State in the delivery of aged care services, in particular:
 - Home and Community Care
 - Aged Care Assessment
 - Residential aged care, especially in rural areas



Productivity Commission

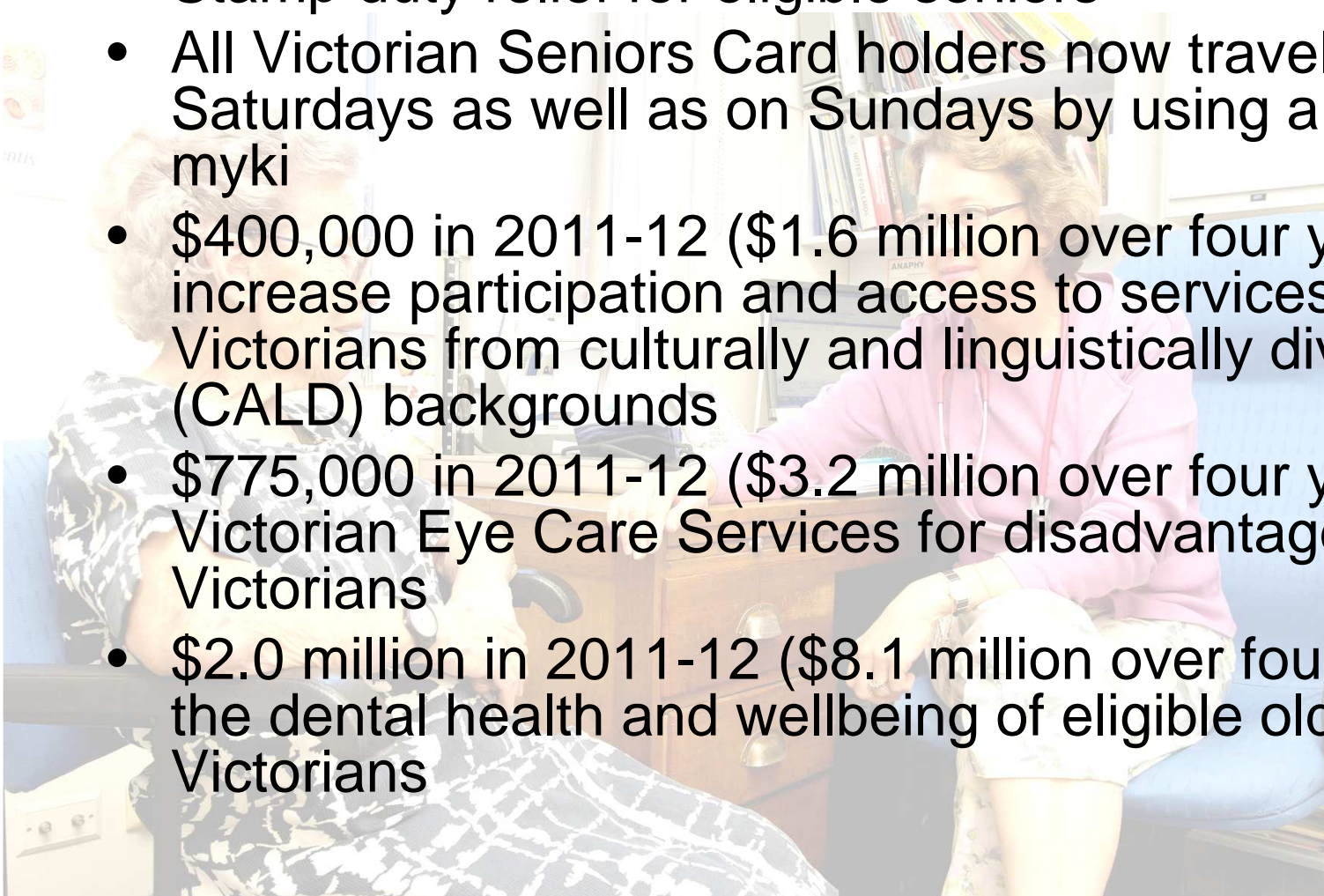
- Productivity Commission is holding a public inquiry into aged care - developing detailed options for redesigning Australia's aged care system to ensure it can meet the challenges in coming decades
- Draft report released 21 January recommends far-reaching changes - a basis for a new market-based system
- Issues raised in response by Victoria include:
 - stability of the service system and service delivery
 - joint management and funding into the future by State and Commonwealth in the delivery of Home and Community Care; continued local government involvement
 - close links between Aged Care Assessment Services and health and hospital system
- The Commonwealth must commit to a continuing role as majority funder in aged care services and provide safeguards to underpin that commitment

Portfolio budget summary

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- Budget for Ageing Output Groups \$1304.8 million in 2011-12
 - Spread across two output groups:
 - Ageing, Aged and Home Care and
 - Small Rural Services (Aged Care and Home and Community Care)
 - This represents growth of \$59.5 million, an increase of 4.77% over 2010-11

Key initiatives in the budget

- \$381.6 million over four years for Energy Concessions
- Stamp duty relief for eligible seniors
- All Victorian Seniors Card holders now travel for free on Saturdays as well as on Sundays by using a Seniors myki
- \$400,000 in 2011-12 (\$1.6 million over four years) to increase participation and access to services by older Victorians from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds
- \$775,000 in 2011-12 (\$3.2 million over four years) for Victorian Eye Care Services for disadvantaged Victorians
- \$2.0 million in 2011-12 (\$8.1 million over four years) for the dental health and wellbeing of eligible older Victorians



Home and Community Care

- \$42.9 million (\$177.9 million over 4 years) for the Home and Community Care (HACC) Program to ensure more Senior Victorians can access this service – providing some 400,000 additional hours of service
- HACC is focussed on older people and younger people with disabilities, and their carers. Services include personal care, home nursing, allied health and social support that help people remain in the community
- New agreement for joint management of the program is being negotiated with the Commonwealth

Palliative Care

- \$8.6 million in 2011-12 (\$34.4 million over four years) to improve access to palliative care services in rural and regional areas and in growth corridors in the metropolitan area (Non-Admitted Services output)
- Palliative care funding will specifically target the growing demand for that service, enabling people to be cared for at home, meet the needs of particular population groups and provide bereavement support

Land for residential aged care

- \$2.0 million provided to facilitate retention of surplus public land for use by not-for-profit aged care providers for the development of residential aged care services
- Part of a former school in North Geelong will be set aside for this purpose
- Lease of the land to develop a facility would follow approval of the Commonwealth Government, as the funder and regulator of residential aged care, allocation of sufficient aged care bed licenses and assessment of the long-term viability of the proposal

Other measures

- \$900,000 in 2011-12 (\$3.7 million over four years) to assist people with dementia including access to early diagnosis for at least 400 people
- \$2.2 million to establish a grants program for Bush Nursing Services, for capital & infrastructure upgrades (Small Rural Services - Acute Health output)
- \$1.8 million for redevelopment of physical facilities at Ballarat District Nursing and Healthcare

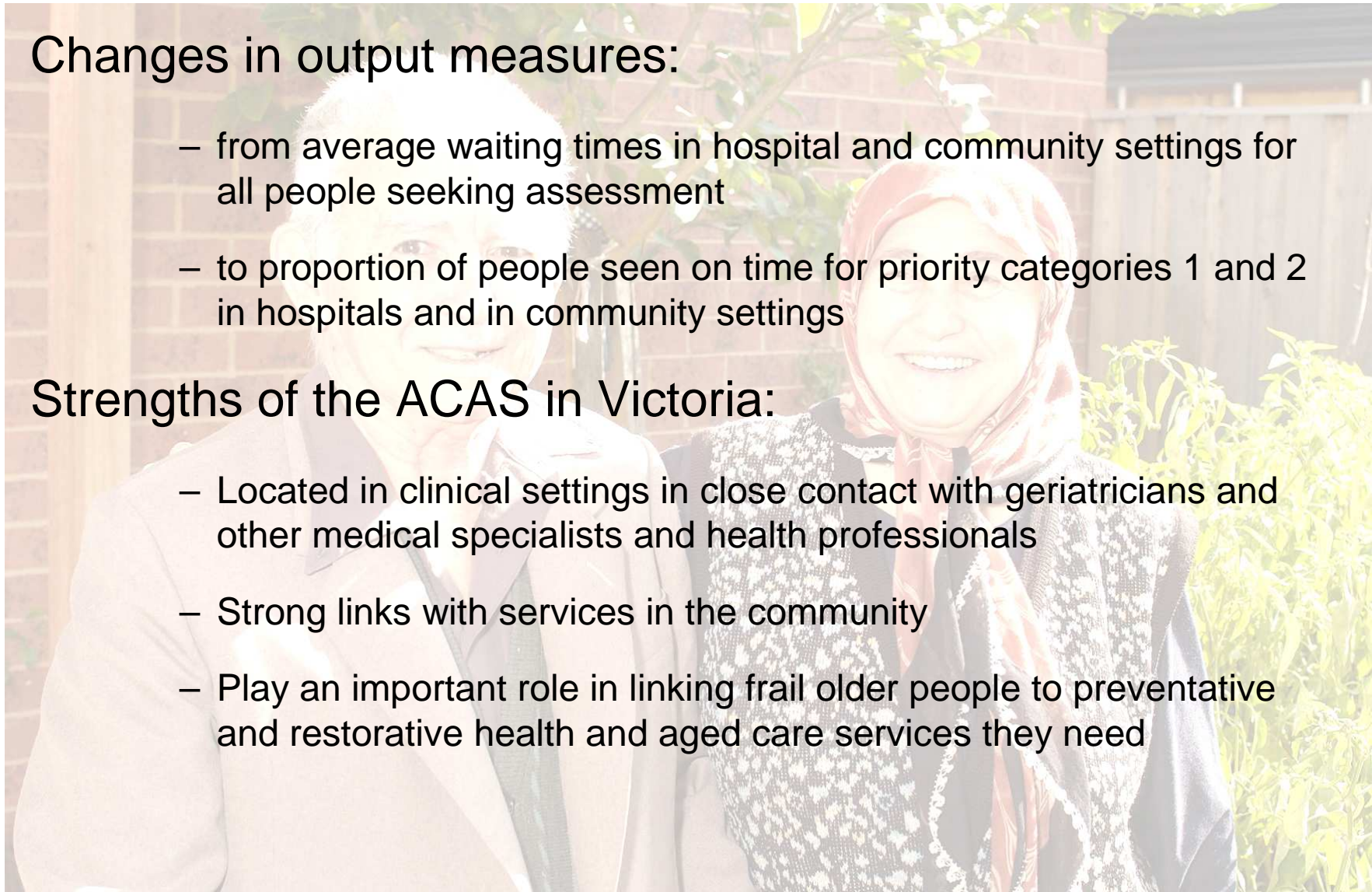
Aged Care Assessment Services

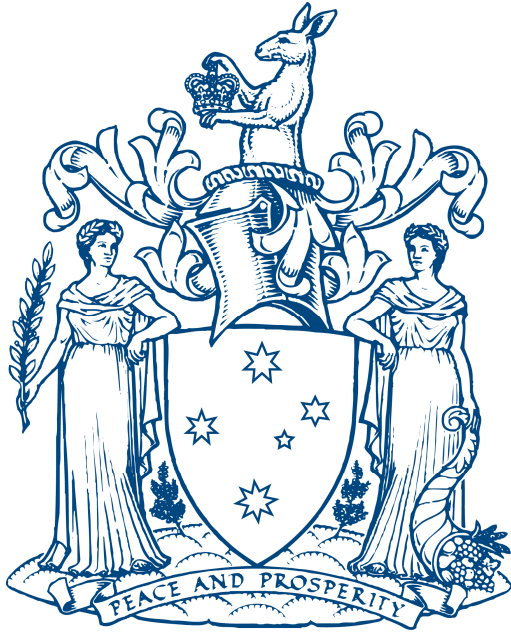
Changes in output measures:

- from average waiting times in hospital and community settings for all people seeking assessment
- to proportion of people seen on time for priority categories 1 and 2 in hospitals and in community settings

Strengths of the ACAS in Victoria:

- Located in clinical settings in close contact with geriatricians and other medical specialists and health professionals
- Strong links with services in the community
- Play an important role in linking frail older people to preventative and restorative health and aged care services they need





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