



**PRIMARY  
SENSE**

**phn**  
GOLD COAST  
An Australian Government Initiative

**2023/24  
YEAR IN REVIEW**

## BENEFITS TO THE GOLD COAST HEALTH SYSTEM

164 practices on the Gold Coast

**92%**  
or  
150 practices  
downloading reports



**2,371**  
Total users



**696**  
GP users



**571**  
Nurse users

**23% increase**

in reports downloaded from January to June 2024 (n=2,634)  
compared to July to December 2023 (n=2,147)

Preventing hospital visits for adverse drug reactions  
– Primary Sense medication alerts

**13,505**

Medication alerts triggered



**22%**

indicated change in prescribing by GPs



**\$17.9M**

potential savings to the local health system

Capturing missed interventions  
– Primary Sense prompts

**12,130**

Interventions implemented  
that might otherwise have been missed



**\$715K**

estimated extra revenue for  
Practices through MBS billing

**19%**

of interventions  
recommended  
through prompts  
were implemented

Improving influenza vaccination rates for  
vulnerable populations – Primary Sense prompts

GPs with desktop app vaccinated

**3,995**

more vulnerable patients than those without



**138**

avoided hospitalisations



**\$983k**

potential savings to the local health system



**Dr Lisa Beecham's Feedback**

*General Practitioner at Gold Coast and Chair of GCPHN Board*

"Primary Sense prompts offer valuable information that aids me in making clinical decisions. These prompts provide point of care data, saving me approximately one minute per consultation by highlighting potential care gaps for at-risk patients, such as overdue vaccinations or required annual microalbumin tests for those with diabetes or CKD or outstanding care plan items. This allows me to concentrate more on patient care and spend less time on administrative tasks or gathering information."

Alyson Ross (Executive Director, Digital Insights and Performance) | Beverly Korn (Director, Primary Health Care)  
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Footnote 1: Adverse drug reactions account for 2-3% of hospital admissions, with a cost of \$6,000 per admission. 13,505 Primary Sense medication alerts were triggered; GPs responded "Appropriate – I will take action" for 22% (n=2,987) alerts. Combined, indicated changes in prescribing contributed to a potential saving of 2,987 \* \$6,000 = \$17.9M Roughhead, L., Semple, S., & Rosenfeld, E. (2013). Literature Review: Medication Safety in Australia. Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care. (Adjusted for inflation). Footnote 2: Average respiratory hospitalization rate among older people is 3,445/100,000 population, with an average cost of AU\$ 7,175 per admission. Influenza vaccination reduced people's risk of being hospitalised from influenza by 68%. GPs with Primary Sense Desktop app had an average of 20.8 immunisations per GP, compared to 14.7 in GPs with no Primary Sense, accounting for additional 3,995 vulnerable patients who have received influenza immunisations. MacIntyre, C. R. et al. (2023). Estimated health and economic impact of using high-dose influenza vaccine on respiratory and circulatory plus respiratory hospitalizations of older adults in Australia. Vaccine: X, 15, 100365 Footnote 3: Excludes duplicate prompts for subsequent visits. Based on MBS item numbers 699, 715, 721, 900, 2715 billed within 30 days after GPs received a Primary Sense prompt.