

**The National System  
for Monitoring Diabetes  
in Australia**

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# **The National System for Monitoring Diabetes in Australia**

**Tracy Dixon and Kathryn Webbie**

**March 2006**

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare  
Canberra

AIHW Cat. No. CVD 32

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ISBN 1 74024 544 X

### **Suggested citation**

AIHW: Dixon T and Webbie K 2006. *The National System for Monitoring Diabetes in Australia*. AIHW Cat No. CVD 32. Canberra: AIHW.

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Published by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Printed by National Capital Printing

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# Acknowledgments

This report has been prepared by Tracy Dixon and Kathryn Webbie of the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare. The authors would like to thank other AIHW staff for their valuable contributions, particularly Louise Catanzariti, Lynelle Moon and Anne-Marie Waters.

The following people from the AIHW refereed various sections of the report: Fadwa Al-Yaman, Mark Cooper-Stanbury, John Goss, Jenny Hargreaves and Robert van der Hoek; we are grateful for their comments and assistance.

We are grateful to members of the National Diabetes Data Working Group and National Diabetes Strategies Group for providing feedback on the content of this report. Special thanks go to Assoc. Prof. Jeff Flack, Prof. Stephen Colagiuri and Ms Sharon Leigh who provided valuable comments and direction.

This information paper was produced with financial assistance from the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing.



# Preface

*The National System for Monitoring Diabetes in Australia* report describes the aims, scope and processes for monitoring diabetes in Australia. It provides a firm foundation for monitoring diabetes into the future.

The diabetes monitoring system in Australia has developed over the last decade. A number of key committees have been instrumental in this development, including the Ministerial Advisory Committee on Diabetes (MACOD), the National Diabetes Register Management Committee, and more recently the National Diabetes Strategies Group (NDSG) and the National Diabetes Data Working Group (NDDWG). The Chairs and members of these committees have played an active role in developing the monitoring system for diabetes in Australia.

The AIHW, with strong support from the former Director Dr Richard Madden, has played a key role in the development of this monitoring system as the home for the National Centre for Monitoring Diabetes and the National Diabetes Register. The Monitoring Centre and the Register have been funded by the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing and that support is gratefully acknowledged.

The monitoring system has already enabled the publication of a number of diabetes monitoring reports, such as *Diabetes: Australian Facts 2002*. The AIHW also manages the National Diabetes Register as well as holding de-identified data on all users of the National Diabetes Services Scheme. These datasets will allow sophisticated analysis by AIHW and other health researchers of the characteristics and outcomes of people with diabetes.

We are now in a position to build on this firm foundation for monitoring diabetes in Australia. I commend this report on the monitoring system to you, and anticipate that we can continue to work together to ensure that diabetes monitoring provides the firm basis needed to guide policy and research into the future.

Dr Ching Choi  
Acting Director

January 2006

