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Protection, promotion, prevention - to improve the public's health

Protection, promotion, prevention are three key pillars for good public health. These pillars provide a framework for improving the public's health. Adequate investment by governments and aligning policy decisions with this framework has the potential for a significant improvement in chronic conditions says Public Health Association of Australia's (PHAA) CEO and President of the World Federation of Public Health Associations (WFPHA) Michael Moore.

Today is the first day of the joint PHAA 44th Annual Conference and 20th Chronic Diseases Network Conference with the theme, 'Protection, Prevention, Promotion, Healthy Futures: Chronic Conditions and Public Health'.

"Australia needs evidence based public health policies supported by appropriate investment to improve our nation's health. Chronic conditions are on the rise with 422 million adults worldwide living with diabetes with 90% classified as type II diabetes. This number is forecast to double in the next 20 years. The global epidemic of diabetes is linked with rising obesity rates, poor diet and decline in physical activity. It is also predicted to be the seventh leading cause of death by 2030. By protecting, preventing and promoting good public health, obesity levels will drop and therefore chronic conditions," said Mr Moore.

Professor Bettina Borisch, Professor of Global Health, University of Geneva, Executive Director of the WFPHA Headquarters in Geneva, is speaking this morning her keynote address titles: 'We only have one chance – What Public Health has to do'.

['A Global Charter for the Public's Health'](#) (*Charter*) is a framework providing a path for public health to be embraced within the global context. It identifies *information, good governance, capacity building and advocacy* as enablers for the three pillars of *protection, promotion and prevention*.

"There is a movement to reduce obesity globally and public health organisations play a key role to achieve this goal globally. The *Global Charter* is a way for organisations and individuals to maintain clear direction and to achieve good public health globally no matter your postcode. This joint Conference gives public health professionals, government officials and interested individuals an opportunity to work together to address chronic conditions to achieve a healthier world," said Professor Borisch.

"This is an important issue and we need to work together to overcome the obesity epidemic and to improve all chronic conditions. This Conference gives Australian health professionals a chance to listen to international experts and see what can be done more effectively," said Mr Moore.

The joint [PHAA 44th Annual Conference and 20th Chronic Diseases Network Conference](#) will be held from 18 – 21 September 2016 in Alice Springs, NT. The theme is Protection, Prevention, Promotion, Healthy Futures: Chronic Conditions and Public Health. #PHAACDN2016

For further information/comment:

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