

# Bermuda Health Council **Corporate Plan 2015 - 2016**

# Bermuda Health Council Corporate Plan 2015-2016

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If you would like any further information about the Bermuda Health Council, or if you would like to bring a healthcare matter to our attention, we look forward to hearing from you.

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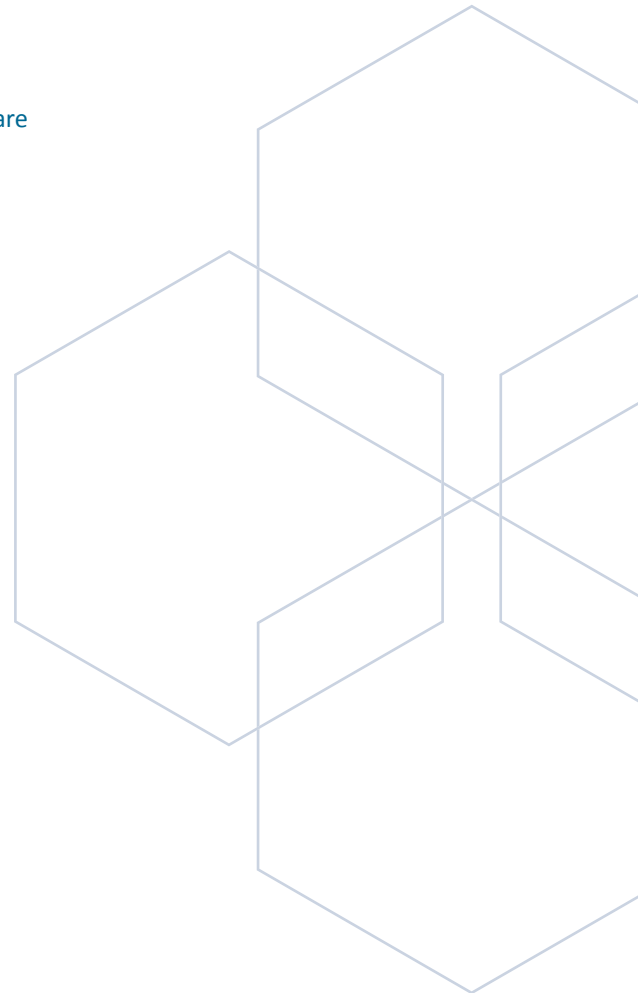
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# Bermuda Health Council

## CORPORATE PLAN 2015/2016

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*“Achieving a quality, equitable and sustainable health system”*

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## ABOUT THE HEALTH COUNCIL

### Who we are

The Bermuda Health Council was established by the Bermuda Health Council Act 2004 with the purpose and **Mission** *to regulate, coordinate and enhance the delivery of health services.*

The Health Council came into operation in 2006. Key achievements since then have focused on the publication of seminal reports and analyses of health system performance to enable evidence-based policy decisions, oversight of the mandated package of health insurance, and enhancing the regulatory framework for healthcare locally.

Our ultimate **Vision** is *to achieve a quality, equitable and sustainable health system.*

### Why we exist

The Bermuda Health Council exists to improve health system performance and population health outcomes by regulating, coordinating and enhancing the delivery of health services in our community.

The Health Council seeks to work with all relevant stakeholders to ensure residents enjoy good quality, affordable healthcare, while assuring the financial sustainability of the health system. We also work to enhance the regulatory framework for healthcare in order to assure a sound standard of care and patient safety.

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## What we do

The Health Council provides oversight of Bermuda's health system in many ways. Our core tasks include to:

- ❖ Enhance the regulation of health service providers and health professionals
- ❖ Enforce employers' compliance with health insurance obligations
- ❖ Review the Standard Premium Rate annually
- ❖ License health insurers and Approved Schemes
- ❖ Set services and fees regulated by the Health Council
- ❖ Advise the Minister of Health on a wide range of health issues
- ❖ Identify ways to enhance the financial sustainability of the health system
- ❖ Work proactively to assure the health system can meet the needs of Bermuda's residents

## OUR PRIORITIES

The Council's work is organized around four **Priority Areas**, in order to meet our legislative mandate. All activities under these priority areas seek to promote quality, contain costs, and ensure accountability and collaboration across the health system. This supports and is in line with the health system values set out by the Ministry of Health, Seniors and the Environment. The priority areas are:

- ❖ **Care quality and standards**
- ❖ **Regulation**
- ❖ **Finance and economics**
- ❖ **Accountability**

This Corporate Plan sets out the objectives we will focus on during the fiscal year 2015/16, based on the four priority areas. The Corporate Plan is published annually as our commitment to accountability, and to ensure open communication with our stakeholders and healthcare partners.

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# OBJECTIVES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR

## Care Quality & Standards

1. Enhance regulation of health professionals by monitoring licensing, certification, standards and codes of practice to assure the quality of healthcare provided
2. Develop standards of practice for regulated health professions in collaboration with statutory bodies to enhance the quality of healthcare provision
3. Introduce standardized clinical guidelines to enhance the quality of healthcare provision
4. Address financially vested self-referrals across the health system to prevent unwarranted utilization of health services
5. Monitor order rates of diagnostic tests to enable provider education of utilization patterns
6. Support roll-out of new 2015 Standard Health Benefits to enable cost-efficient utilization of benefits by indigent persons with chronic non-communicable diseases and for select post-acute care patients

## Regulation

7. Enforce compliance with the Health Insurance (Health Service Providers and Insurers) (Claims) Regulations 2012 to ensure patients are not charged upfront and prompt reimbursement of electronic claims

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8. Monitor and enforce employers' compliance with the Health Insurance Act 1970 to ensure delinquent employers are identified and meet legal obligations
  9. Establish the infrastructure to implement a unique patient identifier across the health system to improve information exchange
  10. Establish mechanisms to regulate health service providers (businesses) in accordance with Section 13 of the Health Council Act to enable health system planning and quality controls
  11. License health insurers for 2016 to ensure insurers are compliant with the Health Insurance Act 1970 requirements
  12. License approved Standard Health Benefit providers to assure quality and patient safety
  13. Manage and monitor health system complaints and queries to the Health Council

## Health System Financing and Economics

14. Determine mechanisms to reduce fragmentation in health system financing, in order to improve efficiency and sustainability
15. Develop new standard health benefits to induce more efficient use of healthcare resources
16. Conduct Actuarial Review to recommend the Standard Premium Rate for 2016/17 to the Ministry of Health and Environment
17. Publish annual National Health Accounts Report to monitor finance and expenditure trends across Bermuda's health system

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18. Publish schedules to set services and fees for non-hospital Standard Health Benefits
  19. Develop a prescription drug formulary to assure the affordability of key medications for vulnerable populations
  20. Recommend new fees for medical practitioners for the treatment of patients in hospital, based on standardized relative values, to ensure transparency and international benchmarking

### **Accountability**

21. Conduct public education on health sector trends and developments to ensure stakeholders' awareness of and engagement with health issues
22. Coordinate implementation of the Ministry's health reform strategy