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### **PRIMARY AND COMMUNITY HEALTH (CHAPTER 11)**

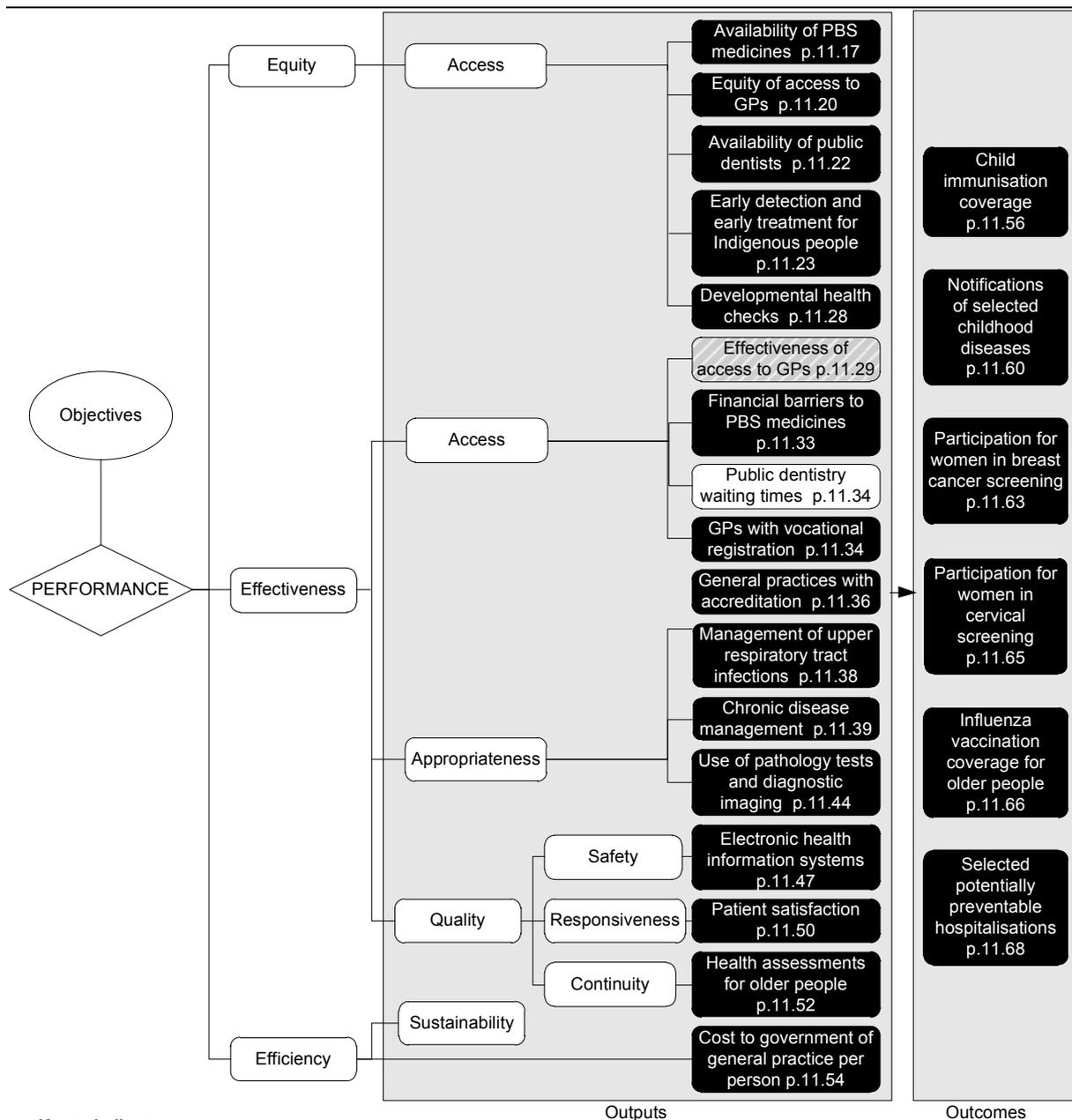
- This chapter reports on primary healthcare services, with a particular focus on general practice, primary healthcare services targeted for Indigenous people, public dental services, drug and alcohol treatment, maternal and child health, the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) and a range of other community health services **(p. 11.1)**.
- The primary and community health sector is the part of the healthcare system most frequently used by Australians. It is important in preventative healthcare as well as in the detection and management of illness and injury, through direct service provision and through referral to acute (hospital) or other healthcare services, as appropriate **(p. 11.2)**.
- Australian Government expenditure on general practitioners in Australia was \$6.4 billion, or \$287 per person, in 2010-11 **(p. 11.6)**. Australian Government expenditure on the PBS was around \$7.3 billion, or \$326 per person, in 2010-11 **(p. 11.7)**. Total expenditure by all governments on community and public health was around \$7.9 billion in 2009-10 **(p. 11.8)**.

### **Broad objectives for primary and community health services**

The shared government objectives for primary and community health services include supporting and improving the health of Australians by **(p. 11.14)**:

- providing a universally accessible point of entry to the healthcare system
- promoting health and preventing illness
- providing timely and high quality healthcare that meets individual needs, throughout the lifespan — directly, and/or by facilitating access to the appropriate service(s)
- coordinating service provision to ensure continuity of care where more than one service type, and/or ongoing service provision, is required to meet individuals' healthcare needs
- ensuring that primary and community health service interventions are based on best practice evidence and delivered in an equitable and efficient manner.

# Primary and community health performance indicator framework (figure 11.3, p. 11.16)



### Key to indicators

- Text** Data for these indicators comparable, subject to caveats to each chart or table
- Text** Data for these indicators not complete or not directly comparable
- Text** These indicators yet to be developed or data not collected for this Report: chapter contains explanatory text

[END]

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Tables with an '11A' prefix (eg table 11A.1) are in the attachments on the Review website.