HealthPathways Melbourne is a web-based system that helps coordinate patient care across the acute and primary care system. It brings together GPs, specialists, nurses and allied health professionals to create pathways that provide guidance around the assessment and management of common medical conditions, including when and where to refer patients.

HealthPathways Melbourne is based on a system developed in Christchurch, New Zealand. Known as the Canterbury Initiative, that system has achieved a number of outcomes including:

- reducing total hospital stays and waiting times
- increasing the amount of care being delivered in the community
- helping older people stay independent in their own home.

**OBJECTIVES OF HEALTHPATHWAYS**

- Build collaboration and reduce fragmentation across the health service network.
- Enhance clinical knowledge and promote best practice care.
- Reduce the number of patients referred to specialist care who could be managed in a primary/community care setting.
- Improve health outcomes by giving patients access to the right care, in the right place at the right time.

**HOW HEALTHPATHWAYS WORKS**

To use HealthPathways Melbourne, clinicians will visit the website and login. They then have the option of selecting a pathway or searching for a condition or suspected illness.

Once the clinician finds the condition they are looking for, e.g. Managing Type 2 Diabetes, they can use the pathway to:

- access symptom outlines and management options
- access information about how to refer to the most appropriate local services.

The information within HealthPathways does not replace the knowledge or clinical experience of the clinician but will act as a memory jogger and adjunct to patient care.

**ACCESSING HEALTHPATHWAYS MELBOURNE**

To access HealthPathways Melbourne, please visit http://melbourne.healthpathways.org.au
You’ll need to enter the username ‘connected’ and the password ‘healthcare’ to log in.

For further information please visit http://melbourneproject.healthpathways.org.au/ or email info@healthpathwaysmelbourne.org.au