



For over 18 years, BEACH has been the leader in Australian data collection and information on general practice activity. With a database of over 1.7 million general practitioners (GPs)-patient encounters, and based on research methods developed and validated over 30 years at the University of Sydney, the BEACH program is the most reliable GP dataset in Australia.

BEACH is the only primary care data that links indications with treatments provided (i.e. the problem or diagnosis is connected to the medication), procedure, referral etc. These linkages do not currently exist in any dataset extracted from electronic patient records.

### What is in BEACH?

BEACH is valid, reliable and nationally representative data that provides accurate estimates of care provision, patterns of management, and information critical to market analysis and pricing.

BEACH data includes:

- characteristics of GPs
- characteristics of practices
- characteristics of patients
- reasons people seek medical care
- problems managed at GP encounters, with each problem directly linked to:
  - medications prescribed, advised and supplied
  - clinical treatments and procedures provided
  - referrals to specialists and allied health services
  - tests ordered, including pathology, imaging and other investigations.

### What can BEACH provide?

BEACH has provided over 800 customised reports to government and industry informing business decisions for:

- PBS submissions
- changes in GP prescribing patterns
- changes in practice in response to health policy
- baseline evidence for change management
- evidence of prescribing behaviours for specific medications and conditions/indicators
- product information with prescribed daily dose
- WAMTC – a reference pricing applied to particular groups of PBS subsidised drugs
- product market share by:
  - indication
  - patient characteristics (e.g. age, sex, locality, Indigenous status etc.)
  - GP characteristics (e.g. age, sex, practice size and locality).



### Want to learn more?

To find out more about BEACH, visit [sydney.edu.au/medicine/public-health/research/beach.php](http://sydney.edu.au/medicine/public-health/research/beach.php)



### Have a question?

For enquiries, please contact Chris Harrison  
E: [christopher.harrison@sydney.edu.au](mailto:christopher.harrison@sydney.edu.au)  
T: (02) 8627 5511