

**APFD presentation to Parliamentary Group  
on Health**

16th April 2014

**“To ensure that all members can give optimal quality of care to their patients” – APFD Statute**

**“Good primary care is associated with better health outcomes, lower costs, and greater equity in health” – Barbara Starfield**

**APFD**

**Association of Private Family Doctors.**

**106 Family Doctors in full time family practice.**

**Represent major gate-keeper in Primary Health.**

**Provides the majority of primary care (70%).**

**Accounts for a third of total health expenditure (34%).**

Investment only in Public Primary Care is counterproductive – people are voting with their feet.

People seek personal attention and to have better continuity of care.

“Above all, patients want continuity in their care, particularly aged ones like me, who were used to more personalised care in our youth. We do not want to see a different doctor whenever we have an appointment”

We either spend millions on stents or we invest in prevention.

This applies for other conditions:

Diabetes, Hypertension, Obesity.

Morover 80% of Health Centre doctors  
took up Contract A – thus not available  
for Private Medicine:

Make Private Family Medicine more attractive

Private Family Medicine needs to be made more attractive.

Doctors would need to be well-trained and motivated.

**Bite the Bullet:**

Provide more elbow room where the family doctor can operate.

Patient registration is an essential pre-requisite.

A strong IT system which unites Primary and Secondary Care.

Improve expertise in Primary Care.

Incentivize the setting up of Group Practices.

## Next Step

**We suggest a one to one meeting to flesh out our proposals**