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To:	Measuring What Matters	
Subject:	Wellbeing Budget Submission	

Introduction

Dr Eddie Price is my name. I am a physician, medical administrator, and the author of four books on wellbeing and health. I am currently Medical Director of Complexity Science Medical Systems Pty Ltd trading as eHealthier and we have developed a state-of-the-art IT platform that not only measures wellbeing but has the capacity to simultaneously commence improving wellbeing. In doing so, it will not only measure improved Australians' wellbeing but it will simultaneously reduce the Federal budget outlays.

Key Points

- Wellbeing and the majority of domains that make up wellbeing is not a physical/material entity. Accordingly, these domains are difficult to measure. As a physician, I was confronted many years ago with the issue of measuring the World Health Organisation's (WHO) definition of health as I wished to measure the health status of patients.

The WHO's definition of health is that health is a complete state of physical, psychological and social wellbeing and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity. After a thorough search of methods of measuring these parameters, it was found the **only** way to effectively measure these was by a **weighted questionnaire** to patients.

Others throughout the world's universities designed the science of psychometrics and from the 1980s multiple universities around the world have created what are now called PROMs (Patient Reported Outcome Measures) that translate a patient's subjective feelings into objective verifiable valid and reliable **measures** of their physical, mental and social wellbeing.

Their physical measures have been called their Functional Health Status or Health- Related Quality of Life and there is an enormous literature and are now thousands of accurate PROMs and PREM patient measures being increasingly used by health services throughout the world.

However, when I initially introduced these measures to doctors they claimed this was not medicine because medicine was based on objective science and a person's answer to a questionnaire was subjective and was not based on good science.

- **Post-Modern Science**

This made no sense to me and after extensive investigation I found the latest science does support these measures and the latest science is called "Complexity Science" led throughout the world by the Santa Fe Institute in the USA.

- **Complex Adaptive Systems**

In fact Complexity Science demonstrates that the world is made up of Complex Adaptive Systems which have well-known characteristics that are programmable. Particularly important are the concepts of loops (cybernetics) and levels (evolution consists of a hierarchy of levels from the smallest atomic particle up until transport systems, education systems, health systems).

The Complex Adaptive Systems that make up each of the domains of a comprehensive wellbeing program are structured based on these scientific principles. Accordingly, eHealthier's IT platform is based on the principles of a

Complex Adaptive System which provide the added improvement potential to each of the domains. In this way, our IT platform is measuring and improving the domains in a Wellbeing budget.

- **OECDs Wellbeing Framework**

Guidelines on measuring "subjective wellbeing document" and include measures, questionnaires which are scored very similar to PROMs and these include:

- Module A: Subjective wellbeing, a scored questionnaire;
- Module B: Life evaluation (again a scored questionnaire);
- Module C: Affect (or a scored questionnaire);
- Module D: Eudaimonic wellbeing (or a scored questionnaire);
- Module E: Domain evaluation (or a scored questionnaire);
- Module F: Experienced wellbeing (or a scored questionnaire).

eHealthier's IT platform although initially created for the health system with overall wellbeing in mind can immediately incorporate and measure modules A to F above.

This same platform can be used for each of the following domains:
1. Civic engagement and government;
2. Cultural identity;
3. Environment;
4. Health;
5. Housing;
6. Income and consumption;
7. Jobs and earning;
8. Knowledge and skills;
9. Safety and security;
10. Social connections;
11. Subjective wellbeing;
12. Time use.

These will use a mixture of what we now call CROMs (Citizen Reported Outcome Measures) in conjunction with current appropriate material measures.

- **Utilisation of these Measures**

These measures can be used to set quantified objectives in each domain.

- **Quantified Objective**

This objective setting facility is embedded in the eHealthier platform. Because of the power of digital disruption, this will lead in each domain to the creation of "12"individual digital profiles.

Each person will have a profile in each domain that can not only be quantified but can be risk stratified.

- **Risk Stratifying the Digital Profiles**

For example, in the health area, people will have an "Individual Health Score". The top level will be judged as having "ideal health". The next level down very good health, the third level, good health, the fourth level, fair health and the fifth level, poor health.

- Top Level – Ideal health.
- Next Level – Very good health.
- 3rd Level – Good health.
- 4th Level – Fair health.
- 5th Level – Poor health.

These individual scores can then be used to involve, in this case health providers whose aim is to increase the level of each person within each bracket.

There would be similar scores for civic engagement, work and job quality, work life balance or any of the 12 domains.

- ## Graphs and Tables

These measures then within the system allows the construction of easily-understood dashboards, tables and graphs of progress including graphs similar to the New Zealand's Living Standards Framework Dashboard. These are sometimes called Spiderweb Graphs or Tables to obtain a comprehensive picture.

Indicators are also available at every level.

- ## Commencement With Health

eHealthier's wellbeing platform has reached maturity today and is available for use and analysis by May of 2023.

- ## Outcome

Not only will it demonstrate that wellbeing (health) can be effectively measured by readily-understood analytics (or indicators), it can be improved and as far as health is concerned, it will save 8% off the Australian annual health budget that is $4 billion per year.

I am keen to open discussions and demonstrate the IT platform to the Treasury, the Wellbeing or Measure What Matters Department as well as to the Treasurer himself.

Regards,

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