



# Practice Connect



**Practice Assist**  
Strengthening general practice in WA

2 July 2019

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Next edition: Tuesday 16 July

## Latest news and updates

### New Health Workforce classification system and updated locator map now available

#### Distribution Priority Area (DPA)

From 1 July, the new health workforce classification system, known as the Distribution Priority Area (DPA), will replace the Districts of Workforce Shortage (DWS) Assessment Areas for GPs and Bonded Doctors (DWS will continue as a classification system for international medical graduates who practise a specialty other than general practice). Instead of using GP-to-population ratios as the determining factor, DPA takes into account demographics and socio-economic status of patients living in a GP catchment area.

The DPA does include a set of “blanket” rules:

- inner metropolitan areas are automatically non-DPA
- MM 5 – 7 are automatically DPA
- Northern Territory is automatically DPA

The DPA classifications utilise the Modified Monash Model (MMM), and it is intended that catchment areas will be fixed for three years to enable areas to stabilise their workforce.

The DoctorConnect locator map, which can be used to pinpoint your practice site and identify its classification, is now within the Department of Health’s website. The map has been updated, and can be used to find multiple layers of classification, including DPA, DWS, MMM, plus historical information relating to the Australian Statistical Geographical Classification Remoteness Area (ASGC-RA) and Rural, Remote and Metropolitan Areas (RRMA).

As the re-classification of a practice location can raise concerns for workforce, it is recommended that you utilise the map, and associated fact sheets on the new DPA, to ensure you are aware of your practice’s individual situation.

To access the DoctorConnect locator map: <https://bit.ly/303qm7z>

To read the Distribution Priority Area factsheet: <https://bit.ly/2xmsSJJ>

To read the Modified Monash Model factsheet: <https://bit.ly/2YzHEZC>

To read the Rural Bulk Billing Incentives factsheet: <https://bit.ly/303GwxM>

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WA Primary Health Alliance is supported by funding from the Australian Government under the PHN Program.

Rural Health West is funded by the Australian Government Department of Health and the WA Country Health Service.

## GP resources for Heart Health Checks

The Heart Foundation has made available a suite of resources, including a webinar, on the Heart Health Check MBS item number and absolute cardiovascular risk assessment.

The webinar involves a multidisciplinary panel discussing absolute CVD risk assessments, including what the new MBS item means and how it can be applied in practice, key enablers and barriers to the implementation of absolute CVD risk assessment, the role of patient engagement, and what remains unaddressed with respect to national guidelines and the evidence base.

Alongside this webinar, aimed at healthcare providers, are a set of resources for both consumers and providers. These include a CVD risk poster which can be displayed in your practice, a DL-size patient brochure about Heart Health Checks, and fact sheets on what you (as a health professional) need to know about absolute cardiovascular disease risk assessments, the clinical approach to the risk assessment, and the Heart Health Check MBS item (this fact sheet has been promoted previously in Practice Connect).

Additionally, there is a separate brochure that encourages patient participation in the Heart Health Check by guiding the patient on what questions to ask, and details to record, when undergoing the assessment. This includes risk factors as well as need-to-know information about medications.

To access the webinar and associated resources, please visit <https://bit.ly/2FJEaeY>.

## Development of draft *Standards for residential aged care facilities*

The RACGP has commenced work on the development of *Standards for residential aged care facilities*.

The first edition of the *Standards for residential aged care facilities* is being developed in response to:

- the barriers GPs face when providing patient care in residential aged care facilities
- a current lack of standards that focus on the equipment, systems, and infrastructure needed to support GPs working in these facilities
- recommendations made by the Productivity Commission Inquiry into Aged Care (2011) and anticipation of the work of the Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety (2019)

To ensure the standards produced by the RACGP are meaningful and applicable to the profession working within the residential aged care setting, the RACGP is inviting feedback from you during the consultation period. Feedback from the healthcare sector will help the College better understand the challenges and barriers we face when delivering general practice services in these settings.

Your insight is crucial to ensure the Standards are relevant, accessible, and support quality and safety in residential aged care facilities. Accreditation has long been sought by GPs who provide care in residential aged care facilities, but significant challenges are faced by GPs delivering this type of care when trying to meet indicators in the *Standards for general practices*.

In addition to the drafts released for consultation, the RACGP will pilot the Standards later in 2019 to test their applicability in the residential aged care setting. The College also seeks expressions of interest for the participation of practices as pilot sites for this stage of the Standards development.

The RACGP invites you to complete the survey, and express your interest (if appropriate) in participating in the process. The survey closes on Monday 8 July, and can be accessed by visiting <https://bit.ly/308iMc7>.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss the invitation to participate, please email [StandardsforRACF@racgp.org.au](mailto:StandardsforRACF@racgp.org.au) or phone 03 8699 0566.

## Vaccine management obligations reminder

A recent vaccine breach in a Sydney practice provided a timely reminder to practices to ensure that they manage their vaccine storage in accordance with the Strive for Five guidelines (<https://bit.ly/2ZZNBi5>) and the Australian immunisation handbook (<https://bit.ly/2QNrI2G>).

NSW Health discovered that vaccines administered from the practice had not been stored correctly since 2010, and may therefore have been ineffective, with thousands of patients potentially affected.

Practices must be aware that vaccines are highly susceptible to changes in temperature, and programs in which vaccines are administered offsite (such as school- and employer-based programs) present a particular risk in terms of regulation of vaccine temperatures. The keeping of records at the practice also raised issues, complicating the process of contacting patients to advise them of the situation.

Dr Ken McCroary, Vice Chair of the RACGP Expert Committee – Standards for General Practices, spoke about the importance of both robust cold chain management, and keeping of quality records (<https://bit.ly/2XV3GWp>). He also recommended choosing an accredited practice, particularly for care such as vaccinations. Accredited practices are reminded of the value of promoting their achievement of accreditation and quality assurance, particularly via public-facing communication channels such as websites or social media, where new patients may go for information when selecting a practice.

## National Cervical Screening Register update

The National Cervical Screening Register (NCSR) is an integral part of the cervical screening pathway and plays a role in improving participation in the National Cervical Screening Program (the Program). The NCSR integrates with government data sets which, for the first time, enables the identification of never-screened eligible persons in Australia.

The data received by the NCSR and received by sources such as Medicare, laboratories and healthcare providers is processed by complex algorithms that are based upon the Program's clinical guidelines and place participants onto the appropriate clinical pathway. This automatically generates appropriate correspondence to participants and their nominated Healthcare Provider.

To support the Program to increase participation, the NCSR will begin to invite newly eligible people aged 25 years and people aged 25 to 30 years who have never screened. This correspondence commenced distribution in June 2019.

The Department of Health is currently planning a broader campaign for the dissemination of invitations to eligible never-screened and under-screened people over the age of 30 to assist the uptake of Cervical Screening Tests and maximise participation.

If you have any questions, you can email [cancerscreeningengagement@health.gov.au](mailto:cancerscreeningengagement@health.gov.au)

## BreastScreen WA free screening mammogram service - Kelmscott

BreastScreen WA's free screening mammogram service will be in Kelmscott, between 1 August and 27 September 2019. The service will be located at Rushton Park Pavilion, behind Kelmscott Hotel, at 60 River Rd. All women aged 40 years and over are welcome to attend, and bookings can be made online by visiting <https://bit.ly/2OPQ4ID>.

For more information for health professionals, please read the provider letter by visiting <https://bit.ly/2FJ24YW>.

You can also order resources, including those in a variety of languages, by using this form (<https://bit.ly/2JtdPE7>) or clicking the link within the form to order online.

# Accreditation tip – Interpreter and other communication services

## RACGP *Standards for general practices* 5<sup>th</sup> edition, Criterion C1.4

When ensuring patients of your practice are able to receive information about your practice and from your clinical team, it is important to consider the abilities of the patient to receive the information, and how your practice might meet the challenges presented by communication barriers.

Firstly, for patients that do not speak the primary language of the practice team, the use of an interpreter should be considered. It is not recommended that family or friends of the patient are used as interpreters for a variety of reasons, including the risk that information will not be translated correctly by individuals who are not qualified in medicine, and that the responsibility of translating and delivering information may cause undue stress on the patient's companion and potentially damage the relationship. GPs who are delivering services eligible for Medicare rebates can access appropriately qualified medical interpreters free of charge through TIS National (<https://www.tisnational.gov.au/>). These services can also be accessed by administrative staff who need to arrange appointments or deliver results.

For patients who have a communication impairment (which may be a hearing, speech, and / or vision impairment, or disability or cognitive impairment), practice staff should be aware of methods they can use to support communication with the patient. These include asking for direction on the best way to communicate, repeating what the patient has told you to confirm you have understood, and knowing how to access the National Relay Service (<https://bit.ly/2TEYRCU>) for patients who are deaf or have a hearing or speech impairment.

The 5<sup>th</sup> edition of the *Standards for general practices* has introduced an aspirational indicator relating to the provision of resources that are culturally appropriate, translated, and / or in plain English. If you have identified that your patient population consists of significant groups of people from particular cultural backgrounds, you may wish to have printed resources translated into the primary language(s) of these peoples. You could also have a directory of resources, services and online tools that help you easily find relevant resources in translated versions.

Ideally, your practice should have a policy and easily accessible resources to enable staff to communicate respectfully and effectively with patients who have low or no English proficiency, or who have a communication impairment. Your policy might describe how staff should identify patients who will require interpreter or other communication services (such as a flag in patient health records), how to access TIS or other services (including procedures and training for using the service, such as conference calling), ensuring interpreter signage / symbols are displayed where patients can see them, and the information that should be recorded in a patient's health record and referral letters to ensure sensitive, quality care can be delivered with continuity both within and outside the practice.

Indicators under this criterion require you to ensure there is evidence in patient health records that translation and communication services are used when appropriate. Your practice should also be able to demonstrate that staff know how to access interpreters and other communication services. If you have practitioners in your practice who speak other languages, it is always helpful to promote this on your practice information sheet and / or website: this enables patients to select a practitioner who can communicate with them in their primary language. For practices located in WA, your Primary Health Liaison will be able to assist you should you need support in finding information on translation and communication services, or are interested in sourcing information in languages other than English.

### Useful links:

*Standards for general practices* 5<sup>th</sup> edition Criterion C1.4 (<https://bit.ly/2KQIHkT>)

Health Translations Directory <http://healthtranslations.vic.gov.au/>

Translated health information about medicines <https://www.nps.org.au/translated-info>

WA Department of Health Language services information <https://bit.ly/326rx84>



## MBS claiming for the National Cervical Screening Program

There have been a number of enquiries regarding billing for women who present for follow up of a prior Intermediate Risk cervical screening test result. Women who are due to have a 2 month follow up test are send communications by the National Cancer Screening Program (NCSP) nine months after the original screen date.

Providers are reminded that the 12 month follow up HPV tests are supported by the Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS) by claiming MBS item number 73072.

Unlike item number 73070, which is intended for primary screening of asymptomatic women, MBS item number 73072 does not have a time restrictor, and can therefore be performed at any time after the date of the original cervical screening test, and be eligible for an MBS rebate. Clinical experts have advised the NCSP that a minimum of nine months should separate the follow up test from the initial screening test.

More information on these item numbers can be found at MBS Online <https://bit.ly/2vfY4XH>

## Royal Perth Bentley Group helping to boost influenza vaccination rates

Influenza vaccinations are being offered to unvaccinated Royal Perth and Bentley Hospital inpatients who are 65 years or older, Aboriginal people, residential facility staff and residents, pregnant women, homeless people, and people with medical conditions which increase the risk of influenza complication. Vaccination details will be included in patient discharge summaries and, where possible, recorded in AIR.

Sub-optimal influenza vaccination rates can have a huge impact on hospital services. While GPs are at the forefront of providing vaccination, offering vaccination to eligible inpatients will reach some patients who may not otherwise present to be vaccinated. Vaccinations may be offered to some outpatients, especially those with high-risk conditions, depending on vaccine availability.

## Measles vaccination catch-up guide for Australian Immunisation Providers

Australia has experienced an increase in reported measles cases in 2019, associated with a 300% increase in cases globally, confirming the need to ensure protection against the disease through vaccination.

The Australian Immunisation Handbook recommends that two doses of a measles-containing vaccine are required for protection against measles.

The National Centre for Immunisation Research and Surveillance (NCIRS) has developed a guide to assist immunisation providers with decisions regarding measles vaccination catch-up for the Australian community.

To access the guide, please visit <https://bit.ly/2L5z6G0>.

# Immunisation update

## Changes to the WAVSS reporting process for Adverse Events Following Immunisation

All significant adverse events following immunisation (AEFIs) should be reported to the Western Australian Vaccine Safety Surveillance (WAVSS) System. WAVSS is the reporting service in WA for any significant AEFI for the general public and health professionals. The WAVSS team provides expert immunisation safety advice to reported and healthcare workers, and can provide clinical services for children and adults who have experienced an adverse event following immunisation.

More information on WAVSS and reporting requirements can be found by visiting <https://bit.ly/2XloMkD>.

The WAVSS Online User Guide can also be accessed by visiting <https://bit.ly/2KSNH8C>.

## Urgent – Poisons Permit Expiry

Vaccine Orders has advised that there are many Poisons Permits (Health Service Permits), linked to government-funded vaccine ordering, that expired on Sunday, 30 June.

Until permits are renewed and advised to Toll, government-funded vaccines cannot be released from the WA Health Toll warehouse for distribution.

Services with existing licences or permits that were due for renewal should have received a renewal form approximately two months prior to the expiry date. To renew the permit, you must return the completed and signed form to the Medicines and Poisons Regulation Branch and pay the renewal fee.

Once you have renewed your permit, you will need to scan and email a copy to Toll via [TCSWAHealthcareCS@tollgroup.com](mailto:TCSWAHealthcareCS@tollgroup.com).

For further details regarding the Poisons Permit (Health Service Permit), please visit <https://bit.ly/2xsuFwV>.

## RACGP awards: congratulations to our WA state winners

Congratulations to the recently announced 2019 RACGP state award winners. Awards are presented for GP of the Year, General Practice Supervisor of the Year, General Practice Registrar of the Year, and General Practice of the Year. National winners of these awards are selected from the state winners, and will be announced at GP19 in October.

2019 Western Australia awards winners are:

Dr Lewis MacKinnon	GP of the Year
Dr Derrick Kuan	General Practice Supervisor of the Year
Dr Sylvia Nicholls	General Practice Registrar of the Year
Illawarra Medical Centre	General Practice of the Year

# HealthPathways update

## The HealthPathways team has now localised 511 pathways

The most recently localised pathway is:

- Dental Health Checks (<https://bit.ly/3275DSu>)

To access HealthPathways, please contact your WA Primary Health Liaison or email the HealthPathways team at [healthpathways@wapha.org.au](mailto:healthpathways@wapha.org.au).

HealthPathways WA would like to invite your GPs to attend the following events:

### GP Education Event: Shared Care – 17 August

Presented by North Metropolitan Health Service and Sir Charles Gairdner and Osborne Park Health Care Group in partnership with WA Primary Health Alliance and HealthPathways WA.

**Date:** Saturday 17 August 2019  
**Time:** 8.30am – 3.30pm (registrations from 8.00am)  
**Venue:** Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital, East & West Joske Rooms, Hospital Ave. Nedlands  
**Cost:** Free (morning tea and lunch provided)  
**Register:** To register, please visit <https://bit.ly/2XjZ7bj>  
**RSVP:** By Friday 9 August

This activity has applied for 40 Category 1 RACGP QI&CPD points and 30 ACRRM PRDP points.

### GP Update: Tackling issues of aging and life-limiting illness – 31 August

Presented by East Metropolitan Health Service in partnership with WA Primary Health Alliance and HealthPathways WA.

**Date:** Saturday 31 August 2019  
**Time:** 8.00am – 3.30pm  
**Register:** To register and for more information, please email [EMHSGPed@health.wa.gov.au](mailto:EMHSGPed@health.wa.gov.au)

This activity has applied for RACGP QI&CPD points.

### ARMED Annual Review of Metabolism, Endocrinology and Diabetes – 2 November

Presented by Fiona Stanley Hospital and Diabetes WA in partnership with WA Primary Health Alliance and HealthPathways WA.

**Date:** Saturday 2 November 2019  
**Time:** 8.30am – 4.00pm (registrations from 8.00am)  
**Venue:** Education Building, Fiona Stanley Hospital, 11 Robin Warren Drive, Murdoch  
**Cost:** Free (morning tea and lunch provided)  
**Register:** To register, please visit <https://bit.ly/2XjZm6c>  
**RSVP:** By Friday 25 October

This activity has applied for 40 Category 1 RACGP QI&CPD points and 30 ACRRM PRDP points.

All events can be found in the Education and Training section of this newsletter.

# My Health Record update

## Clinical documents in My Health Record explained - webinar

The Australian Digital Health Agency will be hosting a national webinar for all healthcare professionals to provide insight into the types of clinical documents that can be found in an individual's My Health Record, highlighting the origins and accessibility to different document types as well as clarifying common ambiguities. Areas to be covered include

- Shared Health Summaries vs Event Summaries
- Prescription and Dispense Records vs Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) medicines
- Medicines Information View – Pharmaceutical Shared Medicines List (PSML)
- Pathology and Diagnostic Imaging
- Specialist Letters
- eReferrals
- Medicare Documents
- Advanced Care Plan and Advanced Care Document Custodian

**Date:** Thursday 18 July 2019  
**Time:** 11.00am – 12.00pm (AWST)  
**Venue:** Online (join via your computer)  
**Cost:** Free  
**Register:** To register, please visit <https://bit.ly/2Flk85u>

## Pharmacist Shared Medicines List explained – national launch webinar

The Australian Digital Health Agency will be hosting a national launch webinar for all healthcare professionals on My Health Record – new Pharmacist Shared Medicines List (PSML) explained.

As a healthcare provider, soon you and your patients will be able to view a list of all Pharmacist Shared Medicines Lists that have been uploaded to a My Health Record. This is a list of medicines the consumer is known to be taking including prescribed, over-the-counter (OTC) and complementary medicines at the time the list is created. Allergies and adverse drug reactions information will also be included within a PSML.

The PSML will improve information sharing between health professionals, ensure continuity of medicine management for patients who transfer between care settings, and provide timely access to a curated medicines list. It will also help to reduce medicine interactions, which will help to improve both medicine safety and patient safety.

All healthcare providers and support staff are welcome to attend this webinar.

**Date:** Tuesday 30 July 2019  
**Time:** 11.00am – 12.00pm (AWST)  
**Venue:** Online (join via your computer)  
**Cost:** Free  
**Register:** To register, please visit <https://bit.ly/2Lt1ana>



## Best Practice error message relating to demographic details

A number of practices using Best Practice Software are receiving an error message when transmitting immunisation records to AIR. This may be due to the client address details registered in Best Practice not meeting the current requirements for transmission to AIR e.g. state code in locality field (e.g. Sydney NSW).

This seems to be impacting immunisation records for older individuals receiving flu or other vaccinations, who are normally bulk-billed for their Medicare consultation, and haven't had recent immunisation encounters transferred to AIR. When immunisation records are transmitted to AIR the current address validation process needs to be met.

Best Practice Software Support has developed an SQL Query to assist users in identifying which client details need to be rectified. Practices are encouraged to contact Best Practice for assistance in running this query on their database. In the interim, practices can check the demographic details of all patients receiving an immunisation encounter to ensure they are in the correct fields before transmitting to AIR.

For more information, please contact Best Practice on 1300 401 111 or at [support@bpsoftware.com.au](mailto:support@bpsoftware.com.au).

## Education and training

Visit our Webinars & Workshops page at [www.practiceassist.com.au](http://www.practiceassist.com.au) for the events calendar.

### Aboriginal Health Conference – 6 & 7 July

The 2019 Aboriginal Health Conference **Kids on Country** will emphasise the importance of children and youth in Aboriginal communities and provide a forum to exchange ideas on the key issues relating to the health of Aboriginal children.

To continue to aim for health equity for Aboriginal children and communities, health professionals need an enhanced understanding of culturally competent care and the links between the environment and the health of Aboriginal children.

The presentations and workshops at this conference will cover aspects of clinical care, research, community programs, emerging health issues and social determinants of health. The conference will also identify strategies to support the role of traditional interactions in Aboriginal communities.

**Date:** Saturday 6 July and Sunday 7 July 2019  
**Time:** 9.00am – 5.30pm (registrations from 8.30am)  
**Venue:** Parmelia Hilton Perth, 14 Mill Street Perth WA 6000  
**Cost:** Please visit <https://bit.ly/2G6982z> for more information, including costs  
**Register:** To register, please visit <https://bit.ly/2EIHNYF>

### Advanced Life Support (ALS) – 13 July

Run and accredited by the Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine, this one-day Advanced Life Support (ALS) course was developed to meet the needs of general practitioners in the management of common emergencies in rural practice. The course incorporates key aspects of Advanced Life Support skills in accordance with the Australian Resuscitation Council guidelines.

The course is conducted by expert instructors experienced in rural general practice.

**Date:** Saturday 13 July 2019  
**Time:** TBC  
**Venue:** Mercure Perth, Irwin St Perth WA 6000  
**Cost:** \$1,395 (ACRRM members), \$1,545 (non-members)  
**Register:** To register, please visit <https://bit.ly/2w4p1AM>

### Rural Emergency Obstetrics training – 14 July

Rural Emergency Obstetrics Training (REOT) is a one-day workshop designed to equip non-obstetric practitioners with vital emergency obstetric skills.

REOT is relevant to any type of doctor, in any location. This course covers normal birthing procedures as well as common birthing emergencies. It will boost your skills and confidence when dealing with third trimester emergencies.

**Date:** Sunday 14 July 2019  
**Time:** TBC  
**Venue:** Mercure Perth, Irwin St, Perth WA 6000  
**Cost:** \$1,695 (ACRRM members), \$1,895 (non-members)  
**Register:** To register, please visit <https://bit.ly/30sCosb>

## Type 1 Diabetes Education event – 16 July

You are invited to the Type 1 Diabetes Family Centre for an update on the latest information regarding the management of Type 1 Diabetes along with the opportunity to tour the facilities available to your patients and their families.

Find out more about

- new technologies
- updates on current research
- Hypoglycaemia prevention strategies
- dietary strategies
- sick day diabetes management

**Date:** Tuesday 16 July 2019  
**Time:** 6.30pm – 8.30pm  
**Venue:** Type 1 Diabetes Family Centre, 11 Limosa Close, Stirling WA 6021  
**Cost:** Free  
**Register:** To register, please visit <https://bit.ly/2WQMkxF>

## GPCE Perth – 27 & 28 July

The General Practice Conference & Exhibition (GPCE) <https://bit.ly/2vH47Fy> in Perth is WA's leading CPD event for primary care, and is recognised as one of the most important CPD events on the general practice calendar. GPCE welcomes over 300 healthcare professionals to meet, update knowledge, earn CPD points, and see the latest innovations specific to primary care.

THE GPCE 2019 program has been designed to suit the changing needs of all primary care professionals, with high quality CPD content in four categories.

### Practice

These sessions will allow you to update and refresh knowledge, get the latest clinical education, earn CPD points and gain confidence, whilst focusing on practical, simple, useful tips and takeaways.

### Business

If your focus for 2019 is improving your business, these sessions will cover the foundations of practice, profitability, team, risk, reputation, systems, operations and more!

### Life

Turning the stethoscope round to you! If 2018 has taken the stuffing out of you, these sessions will focus on personal health and well-being, work-life balance, time management, communication skills and more.

### Curiosity

Feed your curiosity and learn more about what's new now and what's coming. Covering technology, research, and what others are doing, these sessions are guaranteed to inspire.

**Date:** Saturday 27 and Sunday 28 July 2019  
**Time:** 8.15am – 4.45pm (education sessions)  
**Venue:** Crown Perth Convention Centre, Great Eastern Highway, Burswood WA 6100  
**Cost:** Please visit <https://bit.ly/2LZMj5g> for delegate admission costs  
**Register:** To register, please visit <https://bit.ly/2w3gHRs>

## Better Questions Workshop – 8 August

Do you want to make a bigger difference in people's lives by enabling them to manage their own health, wellbeing and lifestyle choices? The Better Questions workshop offers highly effective communication strategies and practical tips that will enable you to enhance your communication skills and professional practice.

**Date:** Thursday 8 August 2019  
**Time:** 9.00am – 3.30pm  
**Venue:** The Boulevard Centre, 99 The Boulevard, Floreat WA 6014  
**Cost:** \$330 per person  
**Register:** Please visit <https://bit.ly/2HzUKPm> to download the flyer and registration form

## Workshop - Team Care of the Bariatric Patient – 10 August

On Saturday 10 August the Clinical Training and Evaluation Centre (CTEC) is holding its Team Care Bariatric Patient Workshop. This multidisciplinary workshop is suitable for General Practitioners, Nurse Practitioners, Practice Nurses, Consultants, Trainees, Junior Doctors, Anaesthetists, Nurses, Dietitians and Allied Health Professionals.

The workshop will be presented by a team of highly regarded specialists in the fields of general practice, surgery, dietetics, and psychology. The workshop will cover co-morbidities associated with obesity, recommendations for referral to specialists and allied health professionals, considerations relating to adolescent and elderly patients, and factors affecting fertility and pregnancy in the perioperative bariatric patient. This activity has been allocated 40 Category 1 RACGP QI&CPD points.

For more information, please access the flyer by visiting <https://bit.ly/2FL09TH>.

**Date:** Saturday 10 August 2019  
**Time:** 8.55am – 4.15pm (registrations from 8.40am)  
**Venue:** CTEC, UWA, Entrance No. 2, Hackett Drive, Crawley  
**Cost:** \$295 (Doctors), \$245 (Nurses / Allied Health Professionals), \$185 (Medical Students)  
**Register:** To register, please visit <https://www.ctec.uwa.edu.au/>

## GP Education Event: Shared Care – 17 August

Presented by North Metropolitan Health Service and Sir Charles Gairdner and Osborne Park Health Care Group in partnership with WA Primary Health Alliance and HealthPathways WA.

This event will focus on some areas of healthcare where a collaborative, shared approach between hospital clinicians and GPs will improve patient outcomes.

Presentations will be brief, interactive and case-based.

Final details are still being confirmed, but topics are anticipated to include mental health and other chronic diseases.

**Date:** Saturday 17 August 2019  
**Time:** 8.30am – 3.30pm (registrations from 8.00am)  
**Venue:** Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital, East & West Joske Rooms, Hospital Ave. Nedlands  
**Cost:** Free (morning tea and lunch provided)  
**Register:** To register, please visit <https://bit.ly/2XjZ7bj>  
**RSVP:** By Friday 9 August

## Hepatitis C in Primary Care & Drug and Alcohol Settings Education Program – 31 August

People who inject drugs represent approximately 90% of newly acquired hepatitis C (HCV) infections. Clinicians in Drug and Alcohol settings play an important role in improving the health outcomes of people living with HCV and can reduce a patient's risk of developing advanced liver disease through early diagnosis, appropriate management of co-morbidities, and treatment with new, curative, Direct Acting Antiviral medication (DAAs).

This course is designed to strengthen the capacity of clinical staff working in drug and alcohol settings, or working with people who inject drugs, to effectively test for, treat, and manage HCV. The course will be delivered in three parts:

- online learning modules
- interactive face-to-face workshop
- resources and toolkits to enable confident prescribing of new DAAs

For more information, please download the flyer by visiting <https://bit.ly/2RLeV1F>

**Date:** Saturday 31 August 2019  
**Time:** 8.45am – 4.30pm (registrations from 8.30am)  
**Venue:** TBC  
**Cost:** Free (lunch and refreshments will be provided)  
**Register:** To register, please visit <https://bit.ly/2XmAVG8>

## Use of Ultrasound in Rural Emergency Medicine – 31 August

The Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine presents this ultrasound workshop offering an introduction and instruction on the use of Ultrasound in Emergency Medicine, trauma, and critical care for the rural generalist or general practitioner with minimal experience in using ultrasound in practice.

A major feature of this workshop is the 'hands-on' practice using live patient models, guided by highly experienced clinical application specialists, sonographers, and clinicians. This course has been designed to cover more common situations that may arise in the Emergency Department, in practice, or basic anaesthetics. Content may vary course to course dependent on the particular skills of the clinical facilitator.

**Date:** Saturday 31 August 2019  
**Time:** TBC  
**Venue:** Novotel Perth Langley, 221 Adelaide Terrace, Perth WA 6000  
**Cost:** \$795 (ACRRM members), \$1,015 (non-members)  
**Register:** To register, please visit <https://bit.ly/2Qbqghl>

## ACNP National Conference – 2 to 5 September

The Australian College of Nurse Practitioners (ACNP) is holding its National Conference in Melbourne from 2 to 5 September 2019.

The ACNP Conference is a fantastic opportunity to bring together Nurse Practitioners, Advanced Practice Nurses and Health Professionals. As the flagship event for the Australian College of Nurse Practitioners, the theme 'Transforming Health Care' recognises the dimensions of practice and contribution made by Nurse Practitioners and Advanced Practice Nurses across Australia.

**Date:** Monday 2 September to Thursday 5 September 2019  
**Time:** 8.30am – 5.00pm daily  
**Venue:** Pullman Melbourne Albert Park, 65 Queens Rd, Albert Park VIC 3004  
**Cost:** For more information, including costs, please visit <https://bit.ly/2HzW2tG>  
**Register:** To register, please visit <https://bit.ly/2HuvwmR>



## 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Women's Health Day for GPs and Practice Nurses – 7 September

This year's event will be a full day session covering a range of women's health topics including:

- recognising eating disorders in general practice
- the top 10 things you need to know about breast density
- understanding Trans Health
- Advance Health Directives in pregnancy
- managing menopause
- Ovarian cancer: what's new
- sexual health – STI update

For more information please download the flyer by visiting <https://bit.ly/2FE84SP>

**Date:** Saturday 7 September 2019  
**Time:** 8.30am – 4.00pm  
**Venue:** Trinity on Hampden, 230 Hampden Rd, Crawley WA 6009  
**Cost:** \$20  
**Register:** To register, please visit <https://bit.ly/2XDCaQG>

## Australasian Sexual Health Conference & Australasian HIV&AIDS Joint Conference – 16 to 19 September

The Australasian Sexual Health Alliance (<https://bit.ly/30xRkFM>) seeks to use the Australasian Sexual Health Conference (<https://bit.ly/2Hvnev7>) to achieve its purpose of acknowledging and building on the specific expertise of sector partners in our common aims of improving national and local responses to sexual health in Australasia, in supporting and collaborating with close neighbouring countries to achieve these objectives.

The Australasian HIV&AIDS Conference (27th Annual Conference of the Australasian Society for HIV, Viral Hepatitis and Sexual Health Medicine - <https://bit.ly/2JRHqJc>) is the premier HIV Conference in Australia and the Asia and Pacific region. The annual conference is run by ASHM (<https://bit.ly/2Qb2bR6>) as a platform for the dissemination and presentation of new and innovative research findings across the Australasian HIV sector.

**Date:** Monday 16 September to Thursday 19 September 2019  
**Time:** 7.00am – 5.00pm daily (please visit <https://bit.ly/2LVkfju> for the program)  
**Venue:** Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre, 21 Mounts Bay Rd, Perth WA 6000  
**Cost:** Please visit <https://bit.ly/30ukSDU> for information on delegate costs  
**Register:** To register, please visit <https://bit.ly/2JOLZnn>

## AAPM National Conference – 1 to 4 October

The 2019 AAPM National Conference will once again be filled with a range of dynamic and inspirational speakers, workshops and its social events, as well as a celebration of AAPM's 40th Anniversary! Join AAPM for another exciting conference and celebrate as they acknowledge 40 years of the Australian Association of Practice Management.

**Date:** Tuesday 1 October to Friday 4 October 2019  
**Time:** Please visit <https://bit.ly/2VNj0HZ> for the conference program  
**Venue:** Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre, Merivale St and Glenelg St, South Brisbane  
**Cost:** Early bird registration prices available – please see registration page  
**Register:** To register, please visit <https://bit.ly/2YE9HXM>

## RMA19 – 23 to 26 October

Rural Medicine Australia (RMA) is the peak national event for rural and remote doctors of Australia. Hosted by the Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine (ACRRM) and the Rural Doctors Association of Australia (RDAA), RMA attracts a diverse and collaborative community of junior doctors, students, educators, academics, and medical practitioners who are passionate about generalist medicine in rural and remote communities.

**Date:** Wednesday 23 October to Saturday 26 October 2019  
**Time:** Please visit <https://bit.ly/30wvaDN> for the conference program  
**Venue:** The Star Gold Coast, 1 Casino Drive, Broadbeach QLD 4218  
**Cost:** Please visit <https://bit.ly/2HHa78T> for delegate costs (early bird available until 31 May)  
**Register:** To register, please visit <https://bit.ly/2HHa78T>

## GP19 – 24 to 26 October

GP19: *Your patients Your community Your solutions* (<https://www.gp19.com.au/>) will see a transition into a full clinical update conference. With an exciting new format delivering dynamic education with a focus on topics that affect GPs in their clinical settings. You will also experience an extensive array of hands-on, interactive and highly engaging sessions with take away skills to implement in your everyday practice.

**Date:** Thursday 24 October to Saturday 26 October 2019  
**Time:** Please visit <https://bit.ly/2EkPTkj> for the conference program  
**Venue:** Adelaide Convention Centre, North Terrace, Adelaide SA 5000  
**Cost:** Please visit <https://bit.ly/2WhAfjK> for delegate costs (early bird available until 1 August)  
**Register:** Registrations open shortly

## ARMED Annual Review of Metabolism, Endocrinology and Diabetes – 2 November

Presented by Fiona Stanley Hospital and Diabetes WA in partnership with WA Primary Health Alliance and HealthPathways WA.

Workshops and presentations include:

- Type 2 Diabetes Management in the modern era
- Workshop: Evaluation and practical measures for patients "at risk" of Type 2 Diabetes
- Workshop: Managing the patient with newly diagnosed Type 2 Diabetes
- Workshop: Goals and therapies for the patient with multiple complications and risks
- Workshop: Foot disease in Diabetes
- Cardiovascular risk and Type 2 Diabetes

**Date:** Saturday 2 November 2019  
**Time:** 8.30am – 4.00pm (registrations from 8.00am)  
**Venue:** Education Building, Fiona Stanley Hospital, 11 Robin Warren Drive, Murdoch  
**Cost:** Free (morning tea and lunch provided)  
**Register:** To register, please visit <https://bit.ly/2XjZm6c>  
**RSVP:** By Friday 25 October

## Health promotion events

The Department of Health produces a Health Calendar of Events, which can be accessed by visiting <https://bit.ly/2ExBdi7>.

### 28 July is World Hepatitis Day

World Hepatitis Day 2019 is on Sunday 28 July 2019, with the aim of raising awareness around viral hepatitis and the impact it has worldwide. The theme for World Hepatitis Day 2019 is “Find the Missing Millions”, with a focus on finding people living with hepatitis who are undiagnosed and linking them to care.

With effective viral hepatitis treatments available to help manage hepatitis B and cure hepatitis C, Australia is leading the way to a future without viral hepatitis. However, an estimated 233,947 Australians are living with chronic hepatitis B (CHB) and 182,144 with chronic hepatitis C (CHC), at risk of preventable deaths from cirrhosis and liver cancer. With close to have a million Australians living with chronic hepatitis B and C, it is likely that there is someone who attends your practice living with hepatitis. It is vital for primary care providers to know the risk factors, test and diagnose people living with hepatitis, to enable treatment to start early enough to halt serious liver damage.

Resources for healthcare providers can be found on the Australasian Society for HIV, Viral Hepatitis and Sexual Health Medicine website <https://ashm.org.au/news/world-hepatitis-day-2019/>.

Extensive resources have been developed to support participation in World Hepatitis Day 2019, and these can be accessed by visiting <http://www.worldhepatitisday.org/>.

Coming up soon...	
National Diabetes Week	13 – 20 July
Be MedicineWise Week	19 – 25 August
Dementia Awareness Month	September
Asthma Week	1 – 7 September
Women’s Health Week	2 – 6 September
World Suicide Prevention Day	10 September