

Network Link

February 2019



GPs with a special interest project providing timely care

By Ciaran McSherry
Principal Project Officer – GP with Special Interest Project

The Metro North GP with Special Interest Project has recently celebrated a significant milestone, with over 1200 specialist outpatient appointments across Metro North provided under the General Practitioner with Special Interest model of care.

This model of care aims to improve patient access to the most appropriate specialist care in a timely and cost-effective manner, within the outpatient setting.

The pilot project, currently funded in partnership with the Queensland Health Clinical Excellence Division, recruited their first GP with Special Interest in April 2018, and now has 17 GPs with special interests working across a diverse selection of 15 specialty departments.

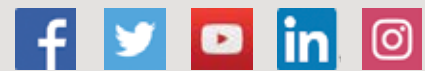
The project represents a unique opportunity for GPs to upskill and take a greater role in areas of interest. The project also strengthens links between primary care practitioners and hospital based specialist services.

The GP with Special Interest outpatient clinics are based out of Metro North Hospital and Community Health facilities.

Special interest outpatients clinics include:

- orthopaedic
- diabetes
- epilepsy
- older persons
- sexual health.

If you are interested in finding out more about a GP with Special Interest position contact the project team at MNHSGPwSIPProject@health.qld.gov.au.



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phn
BRISBANE NORTH

An Australian Government Initiative

Patient information resource now available for those accessing the NDIS



Pictured (l to r): Queenslanders with Disabilities Network Chief Executive Officer Paige Armstrong, Queenslanders with Disabilities Network Chairperson Nigel Webb, Partners in Recovery Manager at Brisbane North PHN Kathy Faulkner and Moreton Bay Regional Council Access and Inclusion Officer Andrew Monaghan.

Late last year Brisbane North PHN launched an information booklet to assist patients accessing the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).

Patient Information Booklet: Accessing the National Disability Insurance Scheme was launched at Changing Lives, Changing Communities in Caboolture, part of the Queensland Council of Social Services statewide series of events.

The booklet, funded by Partners in Recovery and developed by Queenslanders with Disabilities Network, was produced in conjunction with a resource for GPs, *General Practice Toolkit: Understanding your role in the NDIS*.

The booklet provides patients with information to prepare them for a GP visit to discuss the NDIS and complete their access request form.

The Patient Information Booklet discusses:

- how the NDIS supports people
- who is eligible for the NDIS
- outlines how the GPs can assist with access
- provides step-by-step guidance through the access process
- outlines the supporting evidence required
- offers a preparation guide and checklist for a visit to the GP.

Patient Information Booklet: Accessing the National Disability Insurance Scheme is available to download from the PHN website: <http://bit.ly/NDISpatientbooklet>.

GPs can download *General Practice Toolkit: Understanding your role in the NDIS* via the same link.

Limited hard copies of the booklet are available through Queenslanders with Disability Network.

ABOUT NETWORK LINK

For submissions and advertising or to subscribe, visit brisbanenorthphn.org.au/page/publications.

e info@brisbanenorthphn.org.au | w brisbanenorthphn.org.au | t 07 3630 7300

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Smart Referrals coming soon to Queensland

Smart Referrals will allow those involved in patient care to better manage the patient journey, improve patient safety and reduce specialist outpatient wait times. The program is being implemented across the state in 2019.

What is Smart Referrals?

Smart Referrals are digital referrals integrated with GP practice management software that will enable faster, streamlined management of referrals to Queensland public hospitals.

Why Smart Referrals?

- Queensland Health is addressing patient access and waiting lists across the patient journey from GP referral to Queensland public hospital specialists.
- Queensland Health receive almost two million referrals each year, most by post or fax. These may go to the wrong place, or may not have all the information needed to facilitate effective patient care.
- Smart Referrals is another important step in digital healthcare and will create a connected, modern health system for Queenslanders.
- Smart Referrals will simplify access to Specialist Outpatient Services, leading to better and efficient health outcomes for patients.
- Smart Referrals will provide GPs with a new way to track their patient's specialist outpatient care.

What does it mean for GPs?

Safety and quality of care

- enhanced quality of referral information, informs clinical handover, triage and treatment of patients.



Workflow efficiency

- faster, streamlined referral management supports better patient outcomes.

Patient experience

- enhanced quality of referral information reduces wait times.

GP experience

- quicker and easier for GPs to refer.

Clinician experience

- enhanced decision support information improves patient care.

Financial benefits

- reduction in referral rework and avoidable appointments

For more information visit health.qld.gov.au/smartreferrals or email SC-SmartReferrals@health.qld.gov.au.

We're moving!

Brisbane North PHN's Lutwyche office is relocating from the ground floor at Lutwyche City Shopping Centre to Level 4.


Our new street address from Monday 11 February 2019 will be Level 4, Lutwyche City, 543 Lutwyche Road, Lutwyche QLD 4030.

Our existing Lutwyche PHN office will be closed from 5.00 pm Friday 1 February 2019, reopening in the new location upstairs on Level 4 from 8.30 am Monday 11 February 2019.

Stakeholders can contact the PHN office as normal on 07 3630 7300 during this time and our postal address (PO Box 845, Lutwyche QLD 4030) remains unchanged.

We are working to minimise any impact to our usual services during this time and we thank you for your understanding.





Invitation to register for GP to GP referrals

A Brisbane North HealthPathways initiative

GP to GP referrals is an information resource on the HealthPathways website.

It contains the details of GPs who are willing to provide procedural services to other GPs. The page lists specific procedures and the GPs who can provide these services.

This allows GPs to use the skills of other GPs as a convenient alternative to referring to a public or private specialist. Arrangements for follow up can be discussed between the referrer and service provider.

There is no governance provided around this resource, it is purely to give GPs an opportunity to see who provides these services. We suggest that referral should be in writing but all arrangements should be negotiated between the GPs involved, including out of pocket expenses for the patient.

This HealthPathways resource promotes greater visibility of the services provided by GPs, while encouraging collaboration in primary care and improving access for patients.



Visit the Brisbane North HealthPathways GP to GP referrals page for more details: brisbanenorth.healthpathwayscommunity.org

GP to GP referral services available

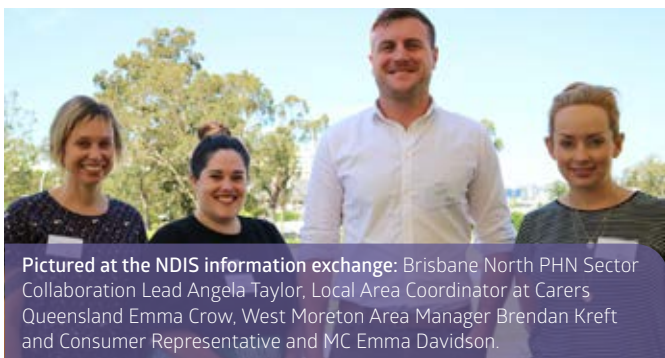
Register now to be included in the list of GPs taking referrals for:

- Ferrinject® iron infusion therapy
- Mirena® insertion/removal
- Implanon® insertion/removal
- Vasectomy
- Wedge resection/phenolisation for in-grown toenail
- Ear toilet/microsuction (not syringing)

If you are interested in providing any of these services to your GP colleagues download the request form at <http://bit.ly/GPtoGP>, fill in your details and submit to healthpathways@brisbanenorth.org.au.

Information exchange eases the National Disability Insurance Scheme transition

Late last year the Collaboration in Mind partnership hosted an NDIS information exchange, bringing together professionals working with people with severe and complex mental illness.



Pictured at the NDIS information exchange: Brisbane North PHN Sector Collaboration Lead Angela Taylor, Local Area Coordinator at Carers Queensland Emma Crow, West Moreton Area Manager Brendan Krefl and Consumer Representative and MC Emma Davidson.

Those attending were interested in helping people with severe mental illness in the Brisbane North region make the successful transition to the NDIS.

The event featured speakers, all who have extensive experience navigating the NDIS transition in other Queensland regions.

Themes that arose from the sessions included the importance of collaboration over competition, the need to foster innovation and understanding the importance of consumer inclusiveness.

The National Disability Insurance Agency and Carers Queensland provided information on the role of the Local Area Coordinators, who can assist individuals understanding and accessing the NDIS and creating and implementing their NDIS plan.

The final session of the day was a Q&A session with Kris Trott, CEO Queensland Alliance for Mental Health and Ivan Frkovic, Queensland Mental Health Commissioner. This session covered an environmental scan of the NDIS, including how the roll out impacts organisations and program participants.

The information exchange was a successful first step in generating interest to form an NDIS working group. The group, which will be steered by Collaboration in Mind, will plan and implement successful transition to the NDIS for people with severe mental illness in the North Brisbane region.

If you are interested to be part of this working group, or for further information, please email:

angela.taylor@brisbanenorthphn.org.au

EOI now open for the Brisbane North PHN Clinical Council

Brisbane North PHN is seeking expressions of interest from Aboriginal health workers and physiotherapists interested in joining the Brisbane North PHN Clinical Council.

The role of the Clinical Council is to represent local clinical stakeholders of the North Brisbane and Moreton Bay region and provide the PHN Board and staff with strategic level recommendations including:

- identifying the needs of the community and local clinicians
- prioritising these needs
- shaping the planning and delivery of the PHN's programs and services through the co-design of appropriate and adaptive solutions.

The Clinical Council includes GPs, allied and community health professionals, paramedics, specialists and hospital representatives.

The PHN is currently seeking three new members to help us strengthen our connections to:

- Aboriginal health workers
- physiotherapists

Meetings are held quarterly for two hours during business hours at the Brisbane North PHN Lutwyche office.

Expressions of interest close at 5.00 pm on 28 February 2019.

For further information about the Clinical Council or the expression of interest process, please contact Amy Petrocy, Engagement and Planning Officer at amy.petrocy@brisbanenorthphn.org.au or 07 3630 7380.

Seeking carers input for dementia survey

Brisbane North PHN is seeking feedback to gain a better understanding about the needs of carers of people with dementia.

This will assist us in developing and implementing appropriate support services for people living with dementia in the North Brisbane and Moreton Bay region.

Your responses to this survey will help the development of a three-year Regional Dementia Strategy, and provide people with the right information.

The survey takes approximately five minutes to complete and all responses are anonymous. The survey will close end of February 2019.

Visit <http://bit.ly/carers-survey> to complete the survey.

Contact Amalia Savini, Evaluation and Reporting Officer via amalia.savini@brisbanenorthphn.org.au or 07 3630 7343 with any questions.

New video promotes local mental health services

Brisbane North PHN has recently produced a video explainer to promote services available through the My Mental Health website.



The video is the perfect place to refer your patient to if they are seeking advice on how to access primary health care, find a mental health service in their community or locate a specialised service.

The animation guides viewers through the steps involved in finding suitable and local mental health services. Clicking through to the My Mental Health website will give you access to resources, events, information for consumers, carers and more.

Watch the video at <http://bit.ly/mymentalhealthvideo> and visit the website www.mymentalhealth.org.au.

Local providers witness positive effects of lifestyle campaign

Local providers of the healthy lifestyle program *My health for life*, are witnessing the positive changes experienced by program participants.



Since the program launched in 2017, more than 4,500 Queenslanders have taken part.

Participants receive personalised health coaching and support and are encouraged to explore their health goals and work with a facilitator to tackle those goals step-by-step.

In the Brisbane North region there have been over 800 people who have completed the program and over 26,000 people who have accessed the online risk assessment.

Health coaching and support is being delivered by local program providers, with currently 14 active providers operating in a range of locations from Toowong to Morayfield. Read on to discover what some of the local providers have to say about the program and visit <http://bit.ly/MH4L-sessions> for the full list of upcoming sessions.

Green Apple Wellness Centre

The Green Apple Wellness Centre provides allied health services, fitness practices and natural therapy options in the one facility.

"The most common feedback that we hear from participants who have completed the My health for life program is how much they enjoy working with a group of likeminded individuals.



Image: Allied health administration Loretta Lamb and Pat MacDonald with exercise physiologists and MH4L facilitators Bridie O'Connell and Tiffany Sciasci from Green Apple Wellness.

It is a great experience to see that lightbulb moment as a participant realises they share past experiences with others in the room. We work together to understand chronic disease, cover healthy lifestyle guidelines, create individual goals and actions plan for their chosen health areas.

In past groups, participants have achieved weight loss and reduced their weight circumference, significantly increased fruit and vegetable consumption and weekly exercise. Most importantly, each and every participant believes that the changes they have put in place are sustainable and will continue after the program ends."

Dietitian Services Queensland

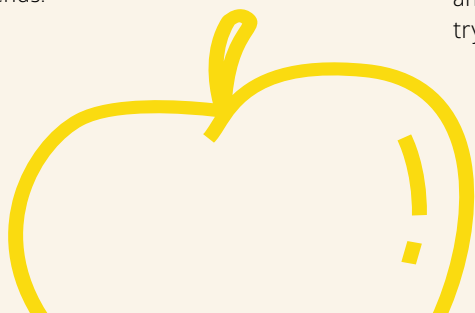
Dietitian Services Queensland provides individual consultations for clients wishing to eat healthier.



Image: The team at Moreton All Body Care Burpengary: Claire, Cathie, Kayla, Justin, Sonya and Tom.

"The most common feedback I get from participants is that they like the support they get from the group. It has been fantastic to see how working through the program has let some participants make major life changes such as going on walking tours, getting medical approval to reduce blood pressure medication, trying new ways to be physically active and making changes to their eating.

Participants really thrive in the group environment. They support each other by checking in on each other's progress, providing encouragement when life gets hard and providing possible ideas/suggestions and advice to each other for difficult situations. The group program is free for clients and is very useful for people that need support while they try to make lifestyle changes that are hard for them."



Nutrition Equipped

Nutrition Equipped offer dietitian services and have a keen interest in breast cancer, health prevention and working collaboratively.

"My health for life provides the opportunity to expand our network of health service providers in the local community and better assist the referral of participants."

The participants enjoy the interaction and discussion about the topics raised. The ups and downs of personal experiences are discussed often accompanied by laughter. Everyone participates. The support of the group encourages and has a motivating effect."

Restart Exercise Physiology

Restart Exercise Physiology supports clients as they embark on a journey towards improved mobility, improved health and improved well-being.



Image: Luke and a client at Restart Exercise Physiology.

"My health for life is all about coaching participants towards better health and well-being. Our ideal client at Restart falls within the 40 to 60 years age group, which we have observed to be a significant portion of the My health for life demographic. We love to empower and educate our clients to take full responsibility for their health status, and seeing them take these tools on board to improve their energy levels, vitality, vigour, and zest for life, as well as reduce their chronic disease risk, is very rewarding!

We have found that the participants of our programs to date report enjoying the support that the program provides: support both from ourselves as the facilitators, and the fellow participants of the group. Knowing that they are not embarking on this journey alone really serves to provide extra motivation and encouragement to the participants to make the lifestyle changes that they desire, as well as a healthy dose of accountability."

Total Exercise Physiology

Total Exercise Physiology is a mixed discipline allied health provider, with exercise physiology, dietitians and a credentialed diabetes educator available throughout the week.



Image: Kate Bell, Emily Stewart and Alicia Allen from Total Exercise Physiology.

"We are big believers in giving patients the tools to make small but positive changes to improve their health. The My health for life program has allowed us to broaden this and has given us a structured framework to deliver to patients. We are constantly blown away by the openness of the participants to change, and we are excited to support participants to achieve their goals.

Our feedback is that participants enjoy the community that is created within their groups, reporting that they are supportive and safe environments. They also enjoy the ongoing discussion around how to maintain healthy and active lives."

True North Wellness

True North Wellness is an exercise and health clinic with a passionate team of allied health professionals including exercise physiologists, dietitians and a diabetes educator.

"My health for life is a perfect supplement to the services we provide that help people to reach their true health potential. The program focuses on long term behaviour change supporting people to make small lifestyle changes that add up over time.

Our participants all enjoy the group support and interaction of the program. This is often the surprising factor—they don't expect to get as much from the group as they do. Participants receive the support, education and, most importantly, practical planning to help them achieve their health goals."

For more information visit www.myhealthforlife.com.au.

For the full list of upcoming sessions within the Brisbane North and Moreton Bay region visit <http://bit.ly/MH4L-grouppsessions>.



Supporting Neurofibromatosis patients

Families living with a diagnosis of Neurofibromatosis (NF) now have greater support following the appointment of an NF Support Coordinator for Queensland and the Northern Territory. Daniel Hinson talks about his role and the genetic condition.



Neurofibromatosis Support Coordinator for Queensland and the Northern Territory, Daniel Hinson.

What is Neurofibromatosis (NF)?

Neurofibromatosis or NF refers to several variable conditions which cause tumours to grow on nerves in the body. NF can affect both males and females and is diagnosed in people from all ethnicities and backgrounds.

NF type 1 (NF1) is quite common and is thought to affect around one in every 2,500 people. NF type 2 (NF2) is much less common and affects around one in 35,000 people. Schwannomatosis is also a type of NF which is rare in the community.

How is it detected?

Detecting NF can be difficult, and each person diagnosed will have a unique medical journey.

There are specific diagnostic criteria for NF1, NF2 and Schwannomatosis. These criteria have been laid out by the National Institute of Health (NIH) Consensus Development Conference Statement 1988.

For the most common type of NF, NF1, the tell-tale signs are having more than six café-au-lait spots (brown 'birth marks') on the skin together with freckling in the armpits or groin. Neurofibromas, which are lumps that grow just under the skin, can also be some of the first and only visible signs of NF1.

Most people with NF2 are diagnosed as young adults following investigations for unexplained headaches, dizziness, balance problems, ringing in the ears or hearing loss.

Who is affected by NF and what impacts can it have on a person's life?

NF is a genetic condition which comes about due to a genetic change (mutation) in an important gene which is needed for tumour protection. Some people with NF will be the first in their family to have this gene change. This means it is not inherited but caused by a 'new mutation' in that NF gene.

For others with NF, the gene change is inherited from one of their parents who may or may not have a milder form of NF. When a person with NF has children, there is a 50 per cent chance that they will pass on the NF causing gene.

What is your role?

I am the NF Support Coordinator, Children's Tumour Foundation (CTF), based at Genetic Health Queensland, Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital (RBWH).

NF is considered to be as common as Cystic Fibrosis, Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy, and Huntington's Disease, but community awareness of NF is still very low. CTF aims to help children, parents, and adults with NF by providing supportive care, advocacy and education, and advancing medical research and clinical capacity.

As part of my role, I'm establishing the support service for Queensland and the Northern Territory. This includes meeting with patients and their families to provide practical and emotional support, help CTF with fundraising events, and liaise with key stakeholders such as Queensland Health.

How will this role support families or GPs?

My position is a point of contact for GPs to refer their patients and families for support. In this role, I can link patients and families to appropriate community support services, individualising this support to their circumstances. By working closely with patients, family members, GPs, and specialist services, I am helping to raise awareness of NF, promoting the great work that CTF does, and in the process making a difference to people with this condition.

What do you hope to achieve in this role?

My hope is that ultimately, we will have a fully funded clinic for medical diagnosis and treatment of NF patients. I want to reach out to as many people as possible, and to promote the positive work of CTF.

For more information contact Daniel Hinson on 07 3646 1262 or via email Daniel.Hinson@ctf.org.au or visit www.ctf.org.au.



▶ Registrations now open for #NextCare health conference

Hosted by Metro North Hospital and Health Service and boasting some of the world's leading experts in leadership and culture transformation, the #NextCare Health Conference will invigorate, inspire and motivate current and aspiring healthcare leaders.

#NextCare speakers include social commentator and business analyst Bernard Salt AM, world-renowned futurist Phill Nosworthy, cultural change coach Amanda Gore, Chief Executive of Australia's largest public health service Shaun Drummond, health digital transformation enthusiast Dr Clair Sullivan, and healthcare leadership expert Jan Phillips.

Early bird registrations are now open online via www.nextcarehealthconference.com.au.

▶ Queensland pelvic mesh service to open in 2019

A specialised service for women with pelvic mesh complications will open on the Gold Coast in the first half of 2019.

The Queensland Pelvic Mesh Service will comprise a team of medical, nursing and allied health specialists, offering expertise in surgery, continence care, chronic pain management and counselling.

The service has been co-designed with clinicians, Health Consumers Queensland and consumer representatives to ensure it will meet the needs of affected women.

A central service model of care has been chosen as pelvic mesh complications require highly specialised clinicians to provide expert and holistic care. Travel and accommodation subsidies are available for women who do not live near the Queensland Pelvic Mesh Service through the Patient Travel Subsidy Scheme.

For more information visit <http://bit.ly/QH-pelvicmesh>.

▶ Ongoing syphilis outbreak

An ongoing outbreak of infectious syphilis is affecting young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, aged between 15 and 29 years and living in northern Australia.

The Australian Government has committed \$21.2 million over four years to fund an augmented health workforce and point-of-care testing in targeted Aboriginal Community-Controlled Health Services within the affected regions.

The funding includes the development of a community awareness, education and testing campaign for syphilis and other STI.

Clinicians working in remote communities can access treatment guidelines and practical tips on engaging with young people on topics such as STI testing via the Young Deadly Free website at <http://bit.ly/YDF-syphilis>.

▶ Queensland Health launches online immunisation courses

The Queensland Health Immunisation Program, in collaboration with the Cunningham Centre, is excited to announce the launch of a suite of four comprehensive online courses for immunisation service providers in Queensland.

The online courses are self-paced, interactive and have been developed with the latest instructional design expertise. They complement existing face-to-face training and education sessions already provided by public health units across Queensland.

Access the courses by visiting www.csds.qld.edu.au. For questions or feedback, email immunisation@health.qld.gov.au.

▶ Queensland syphilis pregnancy guidelines

The Queensland Syphilis in Pregnancy Guideline (SiP) has been reviewed and published at www.health.qld.gov.au/qcg.

Consumer information, flowcharts, education presentations and the knowledge assessment aligned to the SiP guideline are available from www.health.qld.gov.au/qcg.

Clinicians are encouraged to participate and provide feedback on these guidelines.

Contact guidelines@health.qld.gov.au to provide feedback and register your interest for future clinical guideline reviews.

▶ HIV treatment factsheets

The National Association of People with HIV Australia (NAPWHA) have produced a new range of treatment messages for people living with HIV.

The factsheets are aimed at those living with HIV and health professionals looking to provide information to their patients.

NAPWHA works with pharmaceutical companies, educators, clinicians and government to ensure that people living with HIV in Australia have access to the best treatments and information possible.

Download the factsheets from <http://bit.ly/napwha-factsheets>.

New dementia-friendly home opens in Bray Park

Wesley Mission Queensland's newest development, the Clear Mountain cottage at Anam Cara, has recently opened in Bray Park.



Anam Cara's newest development, Clear Mountain, will provide care and support to eight residents with a diagnosis of dementia.

Designed specifically for people living with a diagnosis of dementia, the home consists of eight bedrooms with ensuites, a kitchen, dining area, living area, and a private garden with plots for growing vegetables and fruit. A selective colour scheme enables residents to recognise their own rooms, plus other communal areas of the home, while there are no 'dead ends' in the home, which helps to orientate residents and allow them to move freely and safely. The building also includes state-of-the-art technology such as a nurse call system, Wi-Fi, and live streaming and assistive technologies.

"This beautiful new home has been created using a foundation built on the Eden Alternative philosophy, providing a more intimate household model, where residents lead, guide and are fully involved in all areas of their life," says Silvia Holl, Anam Cara Manager.

"In particular, the cottage has been developed to provide holistic support to residents who, despite their diagnosis of dementia, are still able to be involved in daily life activities.

"We know people living with dementia still want to be as independent as possible, but their diagnosis might get in the way of that sometimes. Our goal is to give residents a home where they can feel safe, confident and supported to live their lives the way they choose."

Dedicated household companions will work alongside residents, building positive relationships with them to foster a sense of comfort and familiarity. A calendar of activities and events will enhance the daily lifestyle, while residents will also have access to the wider Anam Cara community features, including on-site cafe and chapel.

Clear Mountain is now accepting new residents. To find out more and to book a tour, visit: www.wmq.org.au or call 1800 448 448.



Noticeboard

Dementia learning guide

The Centre for Dementia Learning has released its 2019 dementia learning guide. The guide provides an overview of the range of professional and organisational development available nationally for 2019.

The range of courses and online learning is informed by contemporary practice and the suite of education programs incorporates both accredited and non-accredited courses delivered face-to-face, as well as online.

Download a copy of the 2019 Dementia Learning Guide from <http://bit.ly/dementia-guide>.

Drug and alcohol education and support

Breakthrough for Families is a free and flexible program for families who have a loved one affected by alcohol and other drug use. It provides support through information sessions and individual support.

The next date for the program is Tuesday 5 February from 9.00 am – 11.00 am at Act For Kids in Kedron. For more information email ruth.devereux@liveslivedwell.org.au.

My Health Record webinar for practice staff

In February 2019 the Australian Digital Health Agency will be holding a national weekly webinar series entitled 'What you need to know about connecting your practice to My Health Record'.

The webinar will provide practices with the necessary tools and knowledge for how healthcare providers can connect to My Health Record. The webinar will include a question and answer session. For more information visit <http://bit.ly/myHR-webinar>.

Introducing Clear Mountain, a new purpose-built home at Anam Cara, Bray Park, for people living with a diagnosis of dementia.



**NOW
OPEN**

The eight-bedroom community has been developed with a foundation built on the Eden Alternative philosophy, providing a more intimate household model, where residents lead, guide, and are fully involved in all aspects of daily life.

Featuring:

- Selective coloured interior design that helps residents identify areas of the home
- Private garden with vegetable and fruit plots
- State-of-the-art nurse call system and assistive technologies
- Varied monthly calendar of events and activities
- 24-hour nursing care
- Allied health available onsite.



For more information, contact us by phone:
1800 448 448 or email: contactus@wmq.org.au
wmq.org.au



What's on elsewhere

Please contact the relevant organisation for more information about these events. Note, these are not Brisbane North PHN events.

For more events, visit brisbanenorthphn.org.au/page/news-and-events/events.

4 Feb **Project ECHO®: Supporting refugee kids series – Children's Health Queensland**
Delivered online
e ECHO.CHQ@health.qld.gov.au

7 Feb **Project ECHO®: Overweight and obesity in children series – Children's Health Queensland**
Delivered online
e ECHO.CHQ@health.qld.gov.au

15 Feb **Third perioperative patient blood management symposium - Centre for Excellence and Innovation in Anaesthesia**
Herston, Qld
e ppbms@health.qld.gov.au

21 Feb **Queensland trauma symposium - Metro North Hospital and Health Service**
Herston, Qld
e QLDTraumaSymposium@health.qld.gov.au

22 Feb **Foundations of general practice nursing workshop – Australian Primary Health Care Nurses Association**
Brisbane, Qld
e events@apna.asn.au

23 Feb **Assessment and management of upper limb pain - Australian Association of Musculoskeletal Medicine**
Stafford, Qld
e aamm.cert@gmail.com

23 Feb **Hepatitis C: new treatments for primary care providers - Australasian Society for HIV, Viral Hepatitis and Sexual Health Medicine**
Bowen Hills, Qld
w <http://bit.ly/ashm-training>

28 Feb **Clinical update on chronic liver disease for primary care – Metro North Hospital and Health Service**
Brisbane, Qld
e cabH_SupportOfficerSurg@health.qld.gov.au

In the community

1 – 28 Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month

1 – 28 Childhood Heart Disease Awareness Month

4 World Cancer Day

GP bulletin – February 2019

News from General Practice Liaison Officers at Brisbane North PHN and Metro North Hospital and Health Service.

Any feedback or suggestions please send to mngplo@health.qld.gov.au. Please share with your GP colleagues.

HealthPathways update

Newly released HealthPathways:

- short stature in children
- epididymo-orchitis
- pelvic inflammatory disease (PID)
- abnormal vaginal discharge
- before entering a residential aged care facility (RACF)
- needlestick injury: blood or body fluid exposures
- acute kidney injury (AKI)
- chronic non-cancer pain
- medications in chronic non-cancer pain.

Login at: brisbanenorth.healthpathwayscommunity.org or phone 07 3630 7300 for login details.

GP education

- **12 February 2019** - General Genetics for GPs - The Prince Charles Hospital
- **19 February 2019** - Cancer Genetics for GPs – The Prince Charles Hospital
- **26 March 2019** - Epilepsy for GPs – The Prince Charles Hospital
- **14 March 2019** - Managing stage three chronic kidney disease - The Prince Charles Hospital
- **21 March 2019** - Fracture management - The Prince Charles Hospital

Visit bit.ly/phnevents for upcoming education events.

Contact administration.integration@brisbanenorthphn.org.au for more information.

Share the GP Bulletin with your colleagues

To subscribe to the email GP Bulletin go to bit.ly/GPbulletin-subscribe.

Caboolture Hospital wound service trial

Caboolture Hospital will commence a six month trial of a chronic wound service in February 2019.

Referrals will be accepted for patients who have:

Chronic, non-healing wound of more than six months and which is not responding to current treatment.

Essential information including treatments tried so far should be included in the referral. This information can be found at www.bit.ly/woundref.

The clinic is NOT available to patients:

- residing in aged care facilities
- residing outside the local area
- with acute wound care needs
- not agreeable or compliant with their wound management plan
- whose GP or healthcare provider are not able to follow the wound management plan of care which will be provided after the patient's appointment.

For more information contact Lynette Moes, Clinical Care Coordinator on 07 5433 8955.

Queensland Health GP address book

Queensland Health would like the help of general practices to keep the GP (STS) Address Book up to date. This is important if a new GP leaves or starts at your practice.

Practice staff can update the GP address book at www.health.qld.gov.au/metronorth/refer and click on 'Update GP Practice Details'. Fill in the STS Address Book Update form and return via email or print and fax to 07 3872 0371.

GPs with a special interest project (see page 1)

The Metro North GP with Special Interest Project has recently celebrated a significant milestone, with over 1200 specialist outpatient appointments across Metro North provided under the GP with Special Interest model of care.

If you are interested in finding out more about a GP with Special Interest position please contact the project team at MNHSGPwSIPproject@health.qld.gov.au.

Maternal pertussis vaccination changes

A public consultation is now open, proposing changes to the maternal pertussis vaccination recommendations in the Australian Immunisation Handbook.

Access the public consultation document via bit.ly/pertussis-survey until 9 February 2019.

Atrial fibrillation survey for GPs

Atrial fibrillation and other arrhythmias are common medical problems of increasing prevalence, which are often identified and managed by GPs. Researchers at the University of Sydney are conducting a survey to explore the views, knowledge and practices of GPs who treat cardiac arrhythmias.

The survey takes approximately 5 minutes to complete and three participants who complete the survey will receive a \$50 gift card. Visit <http://bit.ly/GPSAFER-survey>.