

Network Link

July 2019



New mental health services in Brisbane North

Following an invitation to tender process, Brisbane North PHN is excited to announce that a range of new mental health services will roll out from 1 July 2019.

Brisbane North PHN will support the establishment of three new integrated mental health service hubs. The hubs will support people with severe mental illness by integrating a range of clinical and non-clinical supports within the one service.

“The PHN expects that funding integrated hubs will improve access to services for people with severe mental illness,” said Paul Martin, Brisbane North Executive Manager for Mental Health, Alcohol and Other Drugs.

After a competitive process with ten proposals received, the tender assessment panel selected the following organisations to establish the hubs:

Royal Brisbane and Women’s Hospital catchment: Communify, in partnership with Toowong Private Hospital, Brisbane Youth Service, Open Minds headspace, Eating Disorders Queensland and Wesley Mission will operate the Recovery and Discovery Centre.

Prince Charles Hospital catchment: Neami National will operate the Living and Learning Centre.

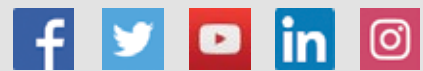
Redcliffe/Caboolture catchment: Aftercare will operate Floresco Caboolture.

The services currently provided by the Mental Health Nursing in Brisbane North (MHNiB) program will be delivered by the three service hubs from 1 July 2019.

In addition to the care coordination, physical healthcare and brief intervention psychological services currently provided under MHNiB, participants will be able to access psychosocial support and a broad range of individual and group based programs through the hubs. Additionally, the service hubs will support people to access the NDIS.

Referrals to the MHNiB program have now ceased and current participants of the program will be supported to transition to the service hubs over the coming weeks.

Continued on page 2



In this edition:

New mental health services in Brisbane North	1 – 2
A commitment to quality improvement	3
The Practice Incentives Program is starting in August 2019	3
Partners in Recovery legacy will live on	4
Vital suicide prevention service expanded	5
Working together to improve care for chronic kidney disease	5
GP breakfast briefing	6
Suicide prevention training in August	7
Aged care leadership celebrated	7
Enrolments open for medical assisting course	8
Maternity care streamlined in the Metro North region	8
News in brief	9
Noticeboard	10
What’s on elsewhere	11
GPs role in bowel cancer screening is crucial	11
GP bulletin – July 2019	12

“The PHN expects that funding integrated hubs will improve access to services for people with severe mental illness.”

Paul Martin, Brisbane North PHN Executive Manager for Mental Health, Alcohol and Other Drugs

How to refer to the service hubs

To be eligible people must:

- be 18 years and over
- have a diagnosable severe or severe and complex mental illness (episodic or persistent)
- be experiencing significant disruption to their daily life, well-being and functioning.

People who are experiencing acute mental illness should continue to be referred to Metro North Mental Health Services via 1300 MH CALL. To refer participants to Brisbane North PHN funded services, including the service hubs from 1 July 2019, GPs and service providers should complete the Brisbane MIND Plus referral form via *GP Integrator* or HealthPathways.

If your organisation does not have this software installed we recommend you contact your Brisbane North PHN Primary Care Liaison Officer (PCLO) to organise installation.

Non-GP service providers can refer by completing the referral form on HealthPathways available at brisbanenorth.communityhealthpathways.org.

For self-referrals and support in making a referral contact the My Mental Health service navigators on 1800 752 235.

Please be aware that while new referrals will be responded to from 1 July, the hubs will prioritise transitioning current participants. It is expected the hubs will be fully operational by September 2019.

Brisbane MIND services

The refocused Brisbane MIND program will deliver short term psychological therapies to underserved population groups who have moderate mental illness and are experiencing financial hardship. Clients must hold a healthcare/pension card to be eligible for Brisbane MIND services.

The new model will have a greater focus on wrap-around support and delivery of specialist services to specified population groups.

Forty-one applications were received across the five streams that went to tender. Separate tender assessment panels selected the following organisations to deliver the programs:

- for children (aged 0–11) in Moreton Bay North / Redcliffe-North Lakes – **Yourtown** and in Pine Rivers / Brisbane North / Brisbane Inner City / Brisbane West – **Aftercare**
- for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex and queer/questioning in all sub-regions – **Queensland AIDS Council**
- for culturally and linguistically diverse populations in all sub-regions – **World Wellness Group**
- for people at risk of suicide in all sub-regions – **Health4Minds**
- for people who have experienced trauma and abuse in Brisbane Inner City – **Axis Psychology** and in Moreton Bay North / Redcliffe-North Lakes / Pine Rivers / Brisbane North / Brisbane West – **Health4Minds**.

For further information about the new program and how to refer, please contact Stephen Giles on 07 3490 3426 or stephen.giles@brisbanenorthphn.org.au.

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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The Primary Care Liaison Officers at Brisbane North PHN can support:

- the adoption of best practice methods to improve quality of care
- the meaningful use of digital systems to maximise the flow of patient information across the health provider community
- the use, collection and reporting of clinical data via a clinical audit tool
- practices to meet the requirements of the PIP QI Incentive and RACGP 5 Edition Standards of Accreditation
- education and professional development for all practice staff.

Some of the benefits of engaging in quality improvement activities include:

- a strong practice team that welcomes contribution from all staff
- a culture of collaboration and continuous quality improvement
- a safe and comprehensive healthcare experience for patients
- improved health outcomes for patients
- improved workflows, systems and business performance
- support to meet the requirements for PIP QI and accreditation
- a practice that is prepared for future models of care.

The EQiP program will ensure practices are moving towards high performing primary care and meeting the requirements of quality improvement.

For more information contact the Brisbane North PHN Primary Care Liaison Officers on 07 3630 7300 or visit <http://bit.ly/PCLOcontact>.

A commitment to quality improvement

From 1 July 2019, Brisbane North PHN is introducing Enhanced Quality in Practice (EQiP), a stepped approach to supporting quality improvement in general practice.

With the Australian healthcare system facing a number of challenges—the rising burden of chronic disease, an ageing population and increasing costs of providing healthcare—the case for high performing primary care has never been stronger.

Undertaking quality improvement activities can allow a practice to move from a reactive model of care to a model that supports patients to self-manage, stay well and engage in regular preventative care.

EQiP is a practice-led program designed for practices at all stages of their quality improvement journey. Brisbane North Primary Care Liaison Officers can guide practices in the design and implementation of meaningful quality improvement activities, responding to an evolving healthcare climate that includes the coming PIP Quality Improvement (QI) Incentive.

The Practice Incentives Program is starting in August 2019

The Practice Incentives Program (PIP) Quality Improvement (QI) Incentive is a payment to general practices who participate in activities that support continuous quality improvement in patient outcomes and the delivery of best practice care.

General practices enrolled in the PIP QI incentive commit to implementing continuous quality improvement activities that support them in their role of managing their patient's health. They also commit to submitting nationally consistent, de-identified general practice data, with a focus on ten key improvement measures that contribute to local, regional and national health outcomes.

The improvement measures allow general practices to understand which patients may benefit from preventative treatments and this can help delay progression of the condition, improve quality of life, increase life expectancy, and decrease the need for high cost interventions.

The improvement measures are not designed to assess individual general practice or general practitioner performance. They do support a regional and national understanding of chronic disease management in areas of high need, and future iterations will respond to emerging evidence on areas of high need.

For more information visit <http://bit.ly/humanservices-PIP> or contact your Brisbane North PHN Primary Care Liaison Officer on 07 3630 7300.



Agencies and staff responsible for the management and delivery of Partners in Recovery at the final celebration.

Partners in Recovery legacy will live on

In May this year, staff and service providers gathered to celebrate the end of an era as North Brisbane Partners in Recovery initiative wound up, following six years working to improve outcomes for people experiencing severe and persistent mental illness with complex needs.

With the introduction of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS), the program has come to an organic end as Partners in Recovery participants gradually transition to support under the NDIS or other community-based programs.

Since 2013, Partners in Recovery has provided service coordination for individuals within the Brisbane North and Moreton Bay region, working alongside people to help them receive personalised support.

Within the region Partners in Recovery was delivered by eight local service providers: Aftercare, Communify, Footprints, Institute of Urban Indigenous Health, Mental Illness Fellowship Queensland, Neami National, Open Minds, and Richmond Fellowship Queensland.

Staff from these organisations attended the recent celebration, along with other community representatives also part of the Partners in Recovery story.

Since the inception of the initiative, Partners in Recovery fielded over 5,000 referrals and supported nearly 3,000 participants by planning and working on recovery goals, finding the support and coordinating services.

As well as affecting so many participants directly through service delivery, the Partners in Recovery consortium also coordinated and delivered a range of initiatives aimed at system reform and collaboration.

Among these initiatives, Partners in Recovery created several practical resources for use within the sector and developed *My Mental Health*, a service navigation website for North Brisbane. Among the system reform initiatives delivered were projects focused on supporting people with hospital discharge and finding alternatives to admission, as well as advocating for the voice of consumers and supporting carers.

Over the years, Partners in Recovery initiated forums, annual mental health expos, and collaborative work with Metro North Hospital and Health Service; all instrumental in helping build the capacity of the sector to better meet the needs of people with severe and complex mental illness. System reform, sector collaboration and service navigation work will continue as part of the regional planning activities being undertaken by the Collaboration in Mind partnership group.

Brisbane North PHN is grateful to the Partners in Recovery agencies who worked to delivery services in the Brisbane North and Moreton Bay region and the PHN extends thanks to the Partners in Recovery managers who led the program through times of change: Pauline Coffey, Paul Martin and Kathy Faulkner.

For more information on Partners in Recovery visit northbrisbane.pirinitiative.com.au.

Final celebrations to mark the end of the Partners in Recovery program



Vital suicide prevention service expanded

An expansion of The Way Back Support Service in Brisbane North will see people who are discharged from Caboolture Hospital after attempting suicide receive personalised support and follow-up care.

The Australian Government announced an additional \$1.2 million in March to expand Brisbane North PHN's local trial of the service, which is delivered by Richmond Fellowship Queensland.

The additional Commonwealth investment will ensure the future sustainability of this service and increase its reach into the Caboolture region.

In a related announcement, the Queensland Government has set aside \$7.5 million over four years in the state budget to expand The Way Back Support Service across Queensland.

The Way Back Support Service, designed by beyondblue, operates locally from the Encircle Neighbourhood Centre in Redcliffe.

During a visit to the Neighbourhood Centre, Federal Member for Petrie Luke Howarth MP said he was delighted to be able to secure the extra funding for patients.

"The funding means Richmond Fellowship Queensland will continue to provide high quality one-on-one non-clinical and practical support to patients discharged from Redcliffe and Caboolture Hospitals," Mr Howarth said.

The great work of the Richmond Fellowship is about keeping people safe, connected to services and well-supported following discharge from hospital when they are most vulnerable," he said.

Evidence shows that up to one quarter of those who attempt suicide will try again in the three months after leaving hospital. Yet beyondblue advises more than half of those discharged from hospital receive no support or follow-up treatment.

The Way Back Support Service operates seven days a week, including after hours and on weekends, and support can be provided for up to three months.

To contact the service, call 1300 180 608.



Pictured in March 2019: Luke Howarth MP, PHN and RFQ staff, and consumer representatives at Encircle Neighbourhood Centre.



Pictured from left to right: Project Manager Alexandra Cation, GP with Special Interest Dr. Gary Chang, MNHHS nephrologist Dr. Adrian Kark, and from Brisbane North PHN Health Data Project Coordinator, Peter Boffey and Practice Development Officer, Amie Horwood.

Working together to improve care for chronic kidney disease

In early June, Brisbane North PHN hosted a clinical audit and education evening attended by GPs and practice nurses from six practices in the area as part of the Keeping Kidneys Integrated Care for Chronic Kidney Disease (KICK CKD) project.

The KICK CKD project is a collaboration between Metro North Hospital and Health Service, Brisbane North PHN and the Queensland University of Technology.

The project aims to improve the care delivered to patients with, or at risk of, chronic kidney disease in Caboolture and surrounding areas by:

- improving access to integrated care closer to home
- improving knowledge and confidence in primary care
- working towards a sustainable model of integrated care.

The education evening focused on using practice data to improve diagnosis and management of patients, also featured a presentation by Dr. Adrian Kark about the diagnosis, monitoring and management of chronic kidney disease.

Other elements of the Keeping Kidneys Integrated Care for Chronic Kidney Disease project include the GP with special interest clinic based at Caboolture and the chronic kidney disease shared care pathway.

For more information on the project contact Practice Development Officer, Amie Horwood on 07 3490 3454.

GP breakfast briefing

Wednesday 16 October 2019

7.00 am – 9.00 am

Royal International Convention Centre



Now in its third year as part of the Metro North Health Forum, the GP breakfast briefing is hosted by Brisbane North PHN and Metro North Hospital and Health Service.

The GP breakfast briefing will be an opportunity to hear about the latest initiatives for general practice, and how both organisations are working together to support GPs and their patients to navigate the health system and improve their wellbeing. It also presents a networking opportunity for general practice staff.

Event details

When: Wednesday 16 October 2019

Time: 7.00 am – 9.00 am

Where: Royal International Convention Centre, 600 Gregory Terrace, Bowen Hills, Hall B

Who should attend: GPs and practice managers

There is no cost to attend and numbers are limited. At the conclusion of the breakfast, attendees are welcome to explore the exhibition in Hall A. The exhibition will feature local for-profit and not-for-profit health related organisations.

To register for the GP breakfast briefing, visit www.health2gether.org.au.

Early bird registrations now open for the Metro North Health Forum

Registrations are now open for the forum, with limited sponsored registrations available for not-for-profit organisations and community consumer groups. Early bird registrations cost \$169.00 per person and include all day catering, access to the exhibition and stage presentations as well as keynote speakers in the plenary sessions. To enquire about sponsored registrations, please email info@health2gether.org.au.

To register online or for more information, visit www.health2gether.org.au.

For more information about the Metro North Health Forum including the GP breakfast briefing and exhibition, visit www.health2gether.org.au. For any further enquiries, email info@health2gether.org.au.



The Metro North Health Forum is a joint initiative between Metro North Hospital and Health Service and Brisbane North PHN

Suicide prevention training in August

Wesley Lifeforce Suicide Prevention Training for GPs and practice nurses

Saturday 10 August
9.00 am – 4.00 pm
Ashgrove Golf Club
863 Waterworks Rd, The Gap

This comprehensive six hour session will provide you with:

- a greater understanding of suicide prevention risk management and intervention strategies
- guidance on patient support and management approaches
- an approach that enables you to provide assistance to a person who may be considering suicide, with recognition of the time constraints of general practice.

Completion of this educational activity entitles eligible participants to claim six CPD hours.

Wesley Lifeforce Suicide Prevention Training for practice managers and staff

Thursday 8 August
5.30 pm – 8.00 pm
Ashgrove Golf Club
863 Waterworks Rd, The Gap

The role of the practice staff in identifying a person at risk of suicide when they present to the practice is crucial. Attend this workshop to:

- build your awareness and skills in recognising signs a person is at risk of suicide
- build your knowledge and confidence in developing a suicide focused triaging protocol in your practice.

This activity has been allocated two AAPM CPD points per one hour of education by the Australian Association of Practice Managers Ltd.

For more information visit <http://bit.ly/SPtraining-august>.

This activity is supported by funding from the Australian Government through the PHN Program.

Aged care leadership celebrated

Board members and executive managers from local community aged care providers gathered recently in Lutwyche to recognise the contributions their organisations have made as members of the healthy@home consortium.

The consortium provides Commonwealth Home Support Program services in the Brisbane North and Caboolture regions to help older people maximise their independence and remain living at home.

Brisbane North PHN Chair Dr Anita Green was on hand to welcome guests to the event and said it was an opportunity to acknowledge and celebrate leadership in aged care.

“healthy@home leverages the combined resources and skills of the 19 member organisations to trial innovative programs, enhance service delivery and support better health outcomes for clients with special needs,” Dr Green said.



Pictured left-right: Brisbane North PHN Deputy CEO, Libby Dunstan, Senior Director Clinical Operations Community and Oral Health, Glynis Schultz and the PHN's Aged and Community Care Executive Manager, Michele Smith.

“Bringing member organisation board directors together to network with each other and learn more about the consortium’s work was a very worthwhile initiative,” she said.

Attendees were treated to a tour of the new consortium website healthyathome.org.au.

For more information on the consortium visit the website or contact the Brisbane North PHN Healthy Ageing team on 07 3630 7300.



YOU'RE INVITED TO THE METRO NORTH GP ALIGNMENT PROGRAM

Saturday 3 August 2019
Royal Brisbane and
Women's Hospital

The GP Alignment Program is a series of free workshops hosted by Metro North Hospital and Health Service. The six hours of education for the maternity program covers a number of topics including:

- first trimester presentations
- recommended screening tests
- diabetes in pregnancy
- prescribing in pregnancy
- Rh-negative women
- early pregnancy bleeding.

Presenters include staff specialists in obstetrics and gynaecology, neurology, pathology, psychiatry, pharmacy, lactation, midwives, nurses, GPs and more.

To register for this event or for any enquiries contact Sandra Balfour on 07 3646 6852 or email mngplo@health.qld.gov.au.

Maternity care streamlined in the Metro North region

The Metro North maternity shared care guideline and antenatal shared care flowchart have been recently updated and are available online, providing GPs with information to support the delivery of safe maternity care.

Metro North Hospital and Health Service provides maternity services at Royal Brisbane and Women's, Redcliffe and Caboolture Hospitals and the guideline and flowchart are based on Australian and Queensland guidelines including the *Department of Health (2018) Clinical Practice Guidelines: Pregnancy Care and the Queensland Clinical Guidelines Maternity and Neonatal Clinical Guidelines*.

The flowchart is a handy one-page decision support tool summarising antenatal care from preconception through to pregnancy care – the first GP visit, screening tests, and routine antenatal care.

The flowchart also contains contact numbers for referral or advice and pathways for high risk pregnancies or pregnancy complications.

Brisbane North HealthPathways has a number of localised women's health pathways including pregnancy, antenatal care and breast feeding. Find these pathways and more at <http://bit.ly/BN-HP>.

To access the maternity shared care guideline visit <http://bit.ly/MNmaternityguide> or to access the antenatal shared care flowchart visit <http://bit.ly/MNantenatalchart>.

Enrolments open for medical assisting course

University of New England Partnerships and Brisbane North PHN are offering the Certificate IV in Medical Practice Assisting at Brisbane North PHN's Lutwyche office, commencing 3 September 2019.

Medical assistants are multi-skilled team members working as part of the practice team. Medical assistants undertake a Certificate IV in Medical Practice Assisting and perform administrative tasks and front desk duties as well as a wide range of treatment room procedures.

Medical assistant Toni Burgess, who graduated in 2018 was a recent state finalist in the Queensland Practice Manager of the Year. Since graduating, Toni has gone on to assist with opening a new medical centre in Toowoomba and is using her administrative and clinical studies within the practice.

Places for the course commencing in September are filling fast, please contact the medical assisting team to find out more via medicalassistant@brisbanenorthphn.org.au or phone 07 3630 7371 for more information.

News in brief

▶ My Health Record training for nurses

The Australian Digital Health Agency, in partnership with the Australian College of Nursing has announced nurses will benefit from the roll out of new e-learning modules on My Health Record.

The new training will ensure nurses are able to use My Health Record in their everyday practice so that information is consistent across the healthcare sector to improve patient outcomes. Research published in Informatics for Health and Social Care found electronic health records can improve patient safety by minimising medication errors, improving documentation of data and enhance the completeness of data. The research also found involving nurses in this process will help to facilitate this outcome.

For more information visit <http://bit.ly/MHR-trainingfornurses>.

▶ Children's health and assessment tool

Children's Health Queensland, and partners, have developed a digital health and developmental assessment toolkit to assist GPs to complete regular health and developmental assessments and to provide better health services for children and young people in out-of-home care and improve their physical, developmental and mental health.

The assessment toolkit can help with the completion of the following health checks:

- a preliminary health check, which should be completed within 30 days of a child entering care
- a comprehensive health and developmental assessment, which should be completed within 90 days

Assessments are available via PDF or imported to your medical practice software. Download the assessment toolkit from the Children's Health Queensland website via <http://bit.ly/CHQ-toolkit>.



▶ Assessing capacity for patients with a psychological condition

Comcare, the national body for health and safety recognises the critical role GPs play in helping people with ill health or injury to recover and participate in work. To support this role, we have produced a new resource for GPs on assessing capacity for patients with a psychological condition.

Presented by consultant psychiatrist Dr Dielle Felman, the five-minute video provides better practice information and recommendations for treating health practitioners on how to assess the capacity for work in patients with a psychological condition.

The resource is also useful for those supporting workers with a psychological condition, such as practice nurses, psychologists and physiotherapists, to understand how capacity has been assessed and certified.

To view the video visit <http://bit.ly/comcare-video> or contact Angie Deegan on 03 9914 6358 for further information.

▶ Research into reproductive coercion

Clinicians needed for research into reproductive coercion, which includes sabotaging contraception, pressuring women to become pregnant, pressuring women to terminate a pregnancy or continue an unwanted pregnancy.

Researchers at the University of Melbourne would like to hear from GPs and nurses working in primary care who have encountered patients experiencing reproductive coercion. Participation involves a once off 20 minute phone interview with a researcher discussing your thoughts and experiences.

Please contact Molly Wellington via molly.wellington@unimelb.edu.au to participate or for more information.

▶ Seeking GPs for a survey about chlamydia management

Researchers at the University of Melbourne would like to hear from GPs regarding chlamydia management practices.

The online survey will take 20 minutes and will help researchers better understand the support and care needed by patients with a chlamydia infection.

To participate visit <http://go.unimelb.edu.au/w7rr> or for further information email mocca-info@unimelb.edu.au.

Noticeboard

Please contact the relevant organisation for more information about the items below.

Resource helps tackle alcohol and substance use stigma

A frequently asked questions resource produced by the Queensland Network of Alcohol and other Drug Agencies (QNADA) aims to tackle the misconceptions and stigma surrounding the use of alcohol and other drugs.

The Alcohol and other Drugs (AoD) Treatment FAQ sheet was created to enlighten service providers about the realities of substance use, while also addressing some commonly held assumptions about alcohol and drug use.

The FAQ provides useful tips about responding to clients' needs, harm reduction, and the process of referring to an AoD service. Treatment options including withdrawal management, residential rehabilitation and psychosocial support are explored in detail.

For more information about the Alcohol and other Drugs Treatment FAQ, contact Sean Popovitch at QNADA on 07 3023 5050 or Sean.Popovitch@qnada.org.au.

Safety and quality in primary care consultations

The Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care is consulting on National Safety and Quality Primary Health Care Standards and invites the primary health care sector to participate.

Interactive workshops will run on Wednesday 10 and Thursday 11 July at North Lakes and Lutwyche PHN offices with catering provided.

Participants will be asked to discuss the safety and quality issues for patients in primary health care, and what needs to be in place to provide safe and high quality care.

Anyone involved in the delivery of primary health care services including, but not limited to primary health care providers, practice managers, policy makers and relevant health service organisations.

For more information contact 02 9126 3635 or visit <http://bit.ly/ACSQHC-workshops> to register.

Saturday appointments now available at BreastScreen

The BreastScreen Brisbane northside service team is now offering Saturday screening appointments.

We encourage all eligible women, in particular those aged between 50 and 74 years, to make an appointment at one of the BreastScreen Queensland services. BreastScreen Queensland is part of the free national screening program to detect breast cancer in asymptomatic women.

Patients may wish to take advantage of Saturday appointments available at

- **Chermside:** 534 Hamilton Rd, Chermside from **22 June 2019**
- **Indooroopilly:** Indooroopilly Shopping Centre, Level 1, Musgrave Road, Indooroopilly from **6 July 2019**.

Although a doctor's referral is not required, women are more likely to attend for breast screening if referred by their GP. Appointments can be made by phoning 13 20 50 or by booking online at www.breastscreen.qld.gov.au.

Medical termination of pregnancy (MTO) training

GPs and primary care teams you are interested in providing medical TOP within their practice are invited to attend the Iris education seminar on 31 July 2019 from 6.00 pm – 8.00 pm in the Brisbane CBD.

The seminar will cover topics including: templates, resources, preparation, linking with counsellors, guidelines and other support, MTO in different settings.

The training will be suitable for GPs who have done the MS2Step training but not yet providing MTO, GPs new to providing MTO, experienced providers wanting to network and support their colleagues, practice nurses and PHN/HHS staff interested in supporting MTO provision in general practice.

For more information or to register visit <http://bit.ly/MTOPeducation>.

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.

July 2019

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|--|---|--|
| <p>03 Psychological aspects of palliative care – Palliative Care Qld
Herston, Qld
e hello@palliativecareqld.org.au</p> <p>06 The women's health symposium – Pivot Osteopathy
Bowen Hills, Qld
e info@womenshealthsymposium.com.au</p> <p>10 National safety and quality primary health care standards consultation workshops – Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care
North Lakes, Qld
e hanna.pak@safetyandquality.gov.au</p> <p>10 National safety and quality primary health care standards consultation workshops – Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care
Herston, Qld
e hanna.pak@safetyandquality.gov.au</p> | <p>11 National safety and quality primary health care standards consultation workshops – Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care
Lutwyche, Qld
e hanna.pak@safetyandquality.gov.au</p> <p>20 2019 Cancer preceptorship for general practitioners – Metro North Hospital and Health Service
Herston, Qld
e hanna.pak@safetyandquality.gov.au</p> <p>22 2019 National elder abuse conference – ADA Australia and Caxton Legal Centre
South Bank, Qld
e info@neac2019.com.au</p> <p>23 Aged care clinical workshop – Bluecare
Kenmore, Qld
e dr.campbell@bluecare.org.au</p> | <p>27 Rheumatology in primary care – Arthritis Queensland
Herston, Qld
e admin@arthritis.org.au</p> <p>31 MTOP in general practice seminar – Iris Education
Brisbane CBD, Qld
e brad.reuter@iriseducation.com.au</p> |
|--|---|--|

In the community

7 – 14 July – NAIDOC Week

13 – 20 July – National Diabetes Week



GPs role in bowel cancer screening is crucial

While bowel cancer awareness month has come and gone for another year, it is still worth being reminded that many bowel cancer deaths have the potential to be prevented through early detection.

Up to 90 per cent of bowel cancers can be successfully treated if found in the

early stages. Currently, only 40 per cent of bowel cancers are found early and many bowel cancers develop without symptoms.

The National Bowel Cancer Screening program invites eligible people aged between 50 and 74 to screen for bowel cancer using a free immunochemical faecal occult blood test (FOBT). The program is designed to detect early signs of disease in people who do not have obvious symptoms.

Only four in ten Australians return a test when a kit is sent to their home. At the current rate of participation, the program is estimated to save 59,000 lives between 2015 and 2040.

GPs play a key role in ensuring that program participants progress through the screening pathway and GPs and practice nurses can also play a role in improving participation in the screening program by encouraging their patients to take the test.

Currently, 50-year-olds have the lowest participation rate in the program. The National Bowel Cancer Screening program suggests that general practices send a letter to 49-year-old patients to encourage them to take part in the screening program. To download a template letter or for more information visit www.cancerscreening.gov.au/bowel.

GP bulletin – July 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:

- non-acute chest pain and angina
- depression in older adults
- heart murmurs in adults
- benign prostatic hyperplasia
- overweight and obesity in children

To submit feedback about HealthPathways, please contact administration.integration@brisbanenorthphn.org.au.

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

GP education

- **20 July**—Cancer preceptorship for GPs – Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital
- **27 July**—Rheumatology in primary care – Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital
- **1 August**—Dementia medication and review in primary care – Brisbane North PHN, North Lakes
- **3 August**—Maternity workshop – Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital

Visit bit.ly/phnevents for upcoming education events.

Missed a GP education event?

Slides from our recent GP education events are now available online at <http://bit.ly/mngpedu>.

Outpatient letters now available in Health Provider Portal

Outpatient letters from Metro North Hospital and Health Service can now be found online in the Health Provider Portal/the Viewer under the 'event summaries' tab. This is in addition to the outpatient appointments and referrals which can be found under the 'outpatient' tab.

To register for the Health Provider Portal visit www.bit.ly/hppinfo.

Pulmonary rehabilitation programs are coming soon

To improve patient uptake Metro North Hospital and Health Service will be introducing a suite of pulmonary rehabilitation (PR) programs from August 2019 that give patients a choice of PR options. Programs will either be:

- **home-based**; for those with transport difficulties, social, cost or illness related barriers
- **satellite**; the program will run in local facilities close to where patients live.

All programs will be eight weeks in length with assessments prior to and on completion of the program and ongoing clinician support from a physiotherapist and clinical nurse. Referrals to this suite of pulmonary rehabilitation programs will be via the current referral pathways. GPs should discuss the PR program options with patients when considering a PR referral.

For more information contact the health coaches program coordinator on **0437 157 019**.

Biologic factsheet

A new, shared care factsheet on Biologic and Targeted Synthetic Disease-Modifying Antirheumatic Drugs (b/tsDMARDs) is now available online at www.bit.ly/dmardmnc.

The GP resource was developed by Metro North Hospital and Health Service rheumatologists led by Dr Claire Barrett, in collaboration with Brisbane North PHN. The document contains information for GPs managing patients taking these agents and includes troubleshooting tips and advice on safely handling adverse reactions, intercurrent infection and elective surgery.

For more information or to provide feedback contact GPLO James Martin via James.Martin@brisbanenorthphn.org.au.

Rheumatology in primary care

Metro North Hospital and Health Service and Brisbane North PHN, in conjunction with Arthritis QLD and the Australian Rheumatology Association (QLD) present this year's Rheumatology in primary care GP education day. This event will feature:

- **quick fire updates** – all you need to know in 10 minutes
- **case studies** – showcasing new tools to assist your practice
- **the joint injection workshop** – develop your procedural skills.

For more information and to register, visit <http://bit.ly/rheumatology-2019>. For any queries contact James.Martin@brisbanenorthphn.org.au.

Palliative care educational videos

The Centre for Palliative Care Research and Education has developed eight short palliative care educational videos for GPs. The videos are designed to provide information on the major elements of palliative care to time poor GPs and other health professionals. Topics include: cancer pain, grief and loss, paediatric palliative care, the principles of palliative care.

Further information or to view the videos visit www.health.qld.gov.au/cpcrc or contact john.haberecht@health.qld.gov.au.