

Network Link

November 2019



Professor Leonie Callaway presenting on the hidden epidemic in maternity care

Metro North Health Forum highlights hidden epidemic in maternity care

'Eat less and exercise more' is the advice patients trying to lose weight often hear from their doctor, but one maternity care expert says the link between obesity and childhood trauma is often overlooked.

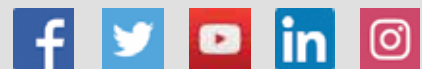
Speaking at the sixth annual Metro North Health Forum in Brisbane on 16 October 2019, Professor Leonie Callaway said people who have more childhood trauma also experience worse health outcomes.

"They're fatter. They are more likely to engage in smoking and alcohol and are more likely to be depressed," Professor Callaway said.

It was while completing her PhD, during a study into obesity in pregnancy, that Professor Callaway said she first became aware of the link to childhood trauma.

Several female study participants experienced panic attacks when they entered an enclosed chamber designed to measure the volume of air displaced. One of these women had experienced severe sexual trauma.

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An Australian Government Initiative



Left to right: Dr Toby Ford of Ford Health, Jeanelle Gibson and Mary Smareglia from the Health Alliance, Jodie Muller from Caboolture Hospital and Debbi Sutherland from Micah Projects, and attendees at the forum.

Over the ensuing years, Professor Callaway delved deeply into the research around trauma informed care, much of which she presented during her Metro North Health Forum keynote address. The Forum is a joint initiative between Brisbane North PHN and Metro North Hospital and Health Service that promotes engagement, information sharing and collaboration.

Latest research

In collaboration with Australian Longitudinal Women's Health Study, Professor Callaway had recently explored a possible link between the gestational diabetes "epidemic", obesity and adverse childhood experiences.

She presented her research, the results of which were published in the American Journal of Preventative Medicine in September this year, at this year's Forum.

Referring to the data from the study, Professor Callaway explained there was a "dose-response relationship" corresponding to increasing burdens of adverse childhood experiences.

"What we demonstrated was that this relationship...is actually robust and is not accounted for by body mass index, food habits [or] the amount of exercise. It's actually an independent association and that leads us to wonder why.

"Our best guess is that these things [adverse childhood experiences] dysregulate your autonomic nervous system, to such an extent, that the cortisol response is the problem.

"[The results suggest] that people who have been abused like this actually have a lifelong, high rate of cortisol," she said, adding that mechanistic research was needed to clarify the findings. Professor Callaway also discussed frequently cited 2003 research by Dutch psychiatrist Bessel van der Kolk into the neurological and biological changes that occur in people as a result of trauma, including difficulties with learning and memory.

"And so we [medical professionals] sit in our clinics, telling people about how to take care of themselves...and we wonder why people don't do what we say," she said.

Pathway to healing

According to Professor Callaway, where damage to the brain's medial prefrontal cortex is not significant, trauma informed therapy could help heal the patient.

"This is exactly like stroke rehabilitation and it requires regrowing three to four centimetres of brain pathway," she said.

The problem, Professor Callaway explained, is there are very few services to which patients can be referred for such therapy. As an alternative, she suggested health professionals could offer their patients a "therapeutic, kindly relationship, which is actually more healing than all of the pills that we hand out".

Other keynote speakers

Also on the Forum program was Dr Toby Ford of Ford Health, a renowned expert in the area of resilience and corporate health risk management. Dr Ford had spoken earlier in the day at a GP breakfast, where he reminded medical professionals of strategies they could put in place to take care of their own health and wellbeing.

The GP Breakfast also featured presentations on improving care for older people, quality improvement in general practice, and opportunities for GPs with a special interest in Orthopaedics.

Later that morning, Forum attendees heard from futurist, writer and international keynote speaker Dr Bruce McCabe, who delivered a fascinating presentation on the technology that is changing healthcare.

To view speaker presentations and snapshot videos from the forum visit health2gether.org.au.

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New trial brings geriatric specialist input into RACFs

As part of the Ageing Well Initiative a small-scale trial has recently commenced, which enables GPs in Residential Aged Care Facilities (RACF) to refer to a geriatrician for advice and assessment.

The Ageing Well Initiative aims to improve the health outcomes for older people, aged 75 years and older and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 50 years and older, residing or receiving health services in The Prince Charles Hospital catchment including Chermside and surrounding suburbs.

The Specialist Input in Residential Aged Care Facilities model commenced in mid-October with Estia Health in Albany Creek working with geriatricians from The Prince Charles Hospital.

Currently if residents in an RACF require specialist input for proactive long term management, they must present to outpatients at The Prince Charles Hospital. This becomes a long and exhausting day for residents and their family and is often resource intensive and logistically challenging for the RACF. Clinicians recognise that one size doesn't fit all when managing older and often complex patients in residential facilities.

GPs and geriatricians also recognise the importance of providing care in the resident's home environment enabling a true understanding of their current needs and level of function and independence.

The Specialist Input in RACFs model for older people in residential care was developed collaboratively with GPs, geriatricians, RACFs and older people—ensuring the patient is at the centre of the care provided.

Jill Robertson, Executive Director of Estia Health, Albany Creek said the trial respects the right of the individual to access quality, individualised care.

“The real individual can be seen when in their own comfortable environment and care strategies can then be individualised to that person,” said Ms Robertson.

The trial will initially run for six months utilising a continuous quality improvement approach. For more information or to get involved contact Bridgette Chapman, Ageing Well Initiative Project Manager on 07 3630 7362 or contact@healthalliance.org.au.



“The new pathways provide GPs with clear step-by-step guidance for referring parents, infants and young children to specialised services they may need. This will greatly enhance quality of care.”

Mental health pathways to help expectant mums and dads

GPs can now access best practice guidelines to help them deliver coordinated perinatal mental health support to mums and dads needing help.

The guidelines, developed through Brisbane North HealthPathways, include information for GPs that covers perinatal mental health support, advice, assessment and service referral information.

Significant needs around infant and perinatal mental health exist locally with up to one in five expecting or new mums—and as many as one in ten dads—affected by perinatal anxiety and/or depression.

Perinatal anxiety and depression can occur any time from conception through the first two years after birth. While most health professionals are aware of postnatal depression, some have less experience of depression during pregnancy or anxiety in the perinatal period.

The pathway was regionally tailored by a range of subject matter experts including Metro North Perinatal Mental Health Service and the Queensland Centre for Perinatal and Infant Mental Health (a statewide centre hosted by Children’s Health Queensland Hospital and Health Service), with early input from Peach Tree Perinatal Wellness and White Cloud Foundation.

Alongside the perinatal pathway, a pathway for infant mental health has been developed to ensure referral pathways are

also available for young children who need mental health support and their families.

Service Development Leader Andrea Baldwin from the Queensland Centre for Perinatal and Infant Mental Health worked closely with the PHN and Metro North Hospital and Health Service to advocate for the development of these pathways.

“There was a need to improve referral pathways and grow the continuum of care for expectant and new parents, infants and young children,” Dr Baldwin said.

“The new pathways provide GPs with clear step-by-step guidance for referring parents, infants and young children to specialised services they may need. This will greatly enhance quality of care.”

As well as providing mental health support and service information, the pathways help increase professional awareness of the Mental Health Care in the Perinatal Period Australian Clinical Practice Guidelines (2017).

The 2019 PANDA Perinatal Anxiety and Depression Awareness Week takes place this month from 10-16 November. For more information and to download resources or a digital toolkit visit www.panda.org.au.

To access the infant and perinatal mental health pathways visit <https://brisbanenorth.communityhealthpathways.org> or phone 07 3630 7300 for login details.



Brisbane MIND and GP mental health treatment plans

From 1 October 2019, GPs and other referrers will no longer be required to attach the GP Mental Health Treatment Plan (GPMHTP) to Brisbane MIND (including Brisbane MIND4KiDS) referrals.

The Brisbane MIND Plus (RediCASE) e-referral form has now been amended to reflect this change.

Referrers will have the option to do one or all of the following actions:

- attach the GPMHTP to the referral
- give a copy of the GPMHTP to the client (We encourage GPs to give a copy of the GPMHTP to the client)
- make the GPMHTP available on request from the provider.

From 1 July 2019, GPs and other referrers will be required to submit referrals through Brisbane MIND Plus (eReferral) RediCASE GP Integrator or HealthPathways.

Old referral forms sent via fax or Medical Objects will no longer be accepted. Referrals submitted on old referral forms will not be processed and will therefore delay treatment.

Please contact the My Mental Health Service Navigators on 1800 752 235 or your PCLO for more information about the following:

- Brisbane MIND Plus (eReferral) RediCASE GP Integrator (Best Practice and Medical Director)
- Brisbane MIND Plus (eReferral) via HealthPathways
- Brisbane MIND target populations and underserved groups
- eligibility criteria for the new Brisbane MIND provider network.

Please contact Redbourne on 1800 783 336 for technical enquiries in relation to the RediCASE system or for GP Integrator installations.

Updated service map for GPs

The Mental Health, Alcohol and Other Drugs team have recently updated the popular Brisbane MIND Plus Service Map.

The service map is an easy-to-read guide of PHN commissioned mental health, alcohol and other drugs and suicide prevention services in the North Brisbane and Moreton Bay region.

The Brisbane MIND Plus service map includes the newly established integrated mental health hubs and recent changes to the Brisbane MIND program and also provides detailed information about program eligibility and referral pathways.

A copy of the Brisbane MIND Plus Service Map is available at <http://bit.ly/BrisbaneMINDmap>.

For more information please contact the My Mental Health Service Navigators on 1800 752 235 or visit www.brisbanenorthphn.org.au.



A practice incentives program update

Following the commencement of the Practice Incentives Program (PIP) Quality Improvement (QI) Incentive, which started on 1 August 2019, 240 practices in the region have now registered to take part.

The majority of these practices have successfully submitted data, which qualifies them for the first quarter PIP QI payment.

Practices participating in the Health Data program will receive their data quality benchmark report via a secure portal. Practices participating in PIP QI only will receive a brief report on the 10 quality improvement measures.

These reports, which will be distributed to practices this month, will help inform quality improvement activities for the next quarter.

Please contact your PCLO for support in developing and implementing quality improvement activities in your practice.



Pictured above and at right: PHN Chair Dr Anita Green, PHN CEO Abbe Anderson and Trevor Evans MP; below: Derek Sandy and attendees at the opening.



Office opening resounding success

Sincere thanks to the many health and community services representatives who joined us in October for the official opening of our relocated Lutwyche office.

Consumer groups, peak bodies and service providers were among our guests, along with Trevor Evans MP and Derek Sandy from Yerongpan Aboriginal Dancers.



My health for life provider call out

My health for life is currently seeking to expand the network of providers within the North Brisbane and Moreton Bay region to support the delivery of the program in 2020 and beyond.

My health for life is a Queensland integrated risk assessment and behaviour modification program that aims to assist participants to reduce their risk of developing chronic conditions such as type 2 diabetes, heart disease and stroke. Based in the community and delivered by local healthcare practitioners, this initiative will identify those at high risk of developing chronic conditions and offer them a healthy lifestyle program.

My health for life offers providers the opportunity to further invest in the health of your community, reshape and reduce the current burden of chronic disease.

In becoming a My health for life provider organisation you will also be contributing to the largest chronic disease prevention program in Queensland, offering direct local access to risk assessment and behaviour change support which will compliment your existing services and support the program to identify those at risk within your community.

My health for life will provide training, resources, support and remuneration to successful provider organisations. Applications close 25 November 2019.

For more information or to receive an application form email provider@myhealthforlife.com.au.



From left to right: Margaret Hilleard, recently hospitalised from a fall at The Prince Charles Hospital with Steven Miles MP, Metro North HHS Community and Oral Health Directorate Nursing Director Mary Wheeldon and Brisbane North PHN Deputy CEO Libby Dunstan.

Queensland-first trial aims to keep at-risk patients at home

Team Care Coordination is involved in a new trial at The Prince Charles Hospital that provides unprecedented access to in-home care and community support to patients over 65 at risk of a fall-related injury.

In a visit to the hospital on 10 October 2019, State Health Minister Steven Miles said Metro North HHS, Queensland Ambulance Service (QAS) and Brisbane North PHN had joined forces to better support elderly people in the community who experienced multiple and frequent falls at home.

“Each month, the Queensland Ambulance Services is seeing more than 1,200 callouts in Metro North area for falls and related incidents for people aged over 65,” Mr Miles said.

“This equates to around 40 falls a day across the whole of Metro North, many of which could potentially be avoided if the necessary community-based supports were in place.

QAS Director of Operations for Metro North region Michelle Holdsworth said many patients don’t require transport to hospital but may fall again within the month.

Brisbane North PHN Deputy CEO Libby Dunstan said around half the patients who fall at home are not taking advantage of free PHN or Metro North community-based services offered.

“For more than twenty years, our Team Care Coordination program has been supporting older people to access care in the community,” Ms Dunstan said.

“Through this program, clinical nurses can assess an older person’s care needs in their home and coordinate access to services that support their health and wellbeing,” she said.

The Falls Community Referral pathway trial, which has begun in The Prince Charles Hospital local area, aims to investigate and address the increasing number of falls in the home, while reducing the access barriers to community-based support and care for the elderly.

Mr Miles said we have found that elderly people who fall at home often do not recognise or acknowledge the future risk of a further fall and therefore do not always accept the option to seek or receive further help.

“In addition, we are heavily dependent on the patient or their family initiating contact with their primary care provider or other care service,” he said.

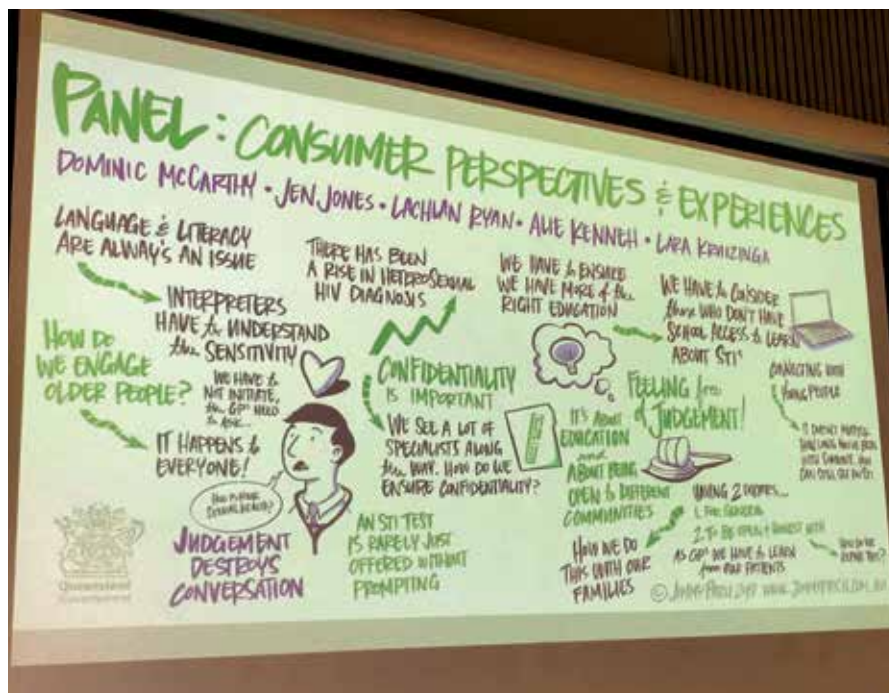
“Some of the reasons for not accessing the available care include the person feeling that they had adequate family support or there were plans in place to visit and discuss with a GP in future.”

The Falls Community Referral Pathway trial is a collaborative response which aims to reduce the rate of falls and fall injuries, and improve functional capacity and quality of life, among older adults within the trial.

“The trial will focus on improving patient access and uptake of community-based services, focusing on those patients who were not transported to hospital, but referred to post-falls management and care coordination delivered in their home,” Mr Miles said.

The trial is targeting adults who would potentially be transported by the QAS to The Prince Charles Hospital for assessment and care, and who have experienced a fall at home and are aged over 65 years.

Mr Miles said the trial would continue over the next six months and will be rolled out further if successful.



Resources available for people with haemochromatosis

Haemochromatosis Australia has a number of free resources including the newly released 'My Iron Manager App' available for both patients and health professionals on their website www.ha.org.au.

The app is designed to help patients manage their haemochromatosis treatment. It provides a directory of places for venesections (searchable by postcode), an online tool for recording and downloading blood test results and venesection history, general haemochromatosis information, as well as a calendar for managing appointments. All data entered to the app is stored locally on the device, not uploaded to the internet.

Other resources available through the website include:

- *Haemochromatosis Your Questions Answered* – 28 page booklet explaining haemochromatosis in simple terms
- a letter that is suitable for patients to email or post to relatives explaining what they need to know about a haemochromatosis diagnosis within the family
- videos including patient stories
- international therapeutic guidelines
- information sheets.

For more information contact Haemochromatosis Australia via 1300 019 028.

Primary care is key to sexual health

In October, the PHN attended the Sexual Health Ministerial Advisory Committee's primary care forum at Victoria Park.

The facilitating primary care in prevention, treatment, management of blood borne viruses and sexually transmitted infections forum gathered together a range of health professionals and consumers in response to rising notification rates of sexually transmissible infections, including syphilis, chlamydia and gonorrhoea, and blood-borne viruses, such as hepatitis C.

Chaired by Professor Cindy Shannon, the forum acknowledged the integral role primary care plays in the treatment, prevention and management of BBVs and STIs and provided an opportunity to explore how primary care could increase the rates of BBV and STI testing.

One strategy suggested that sexual healthcare should be further normalised and integrated into primary practice as a core component of health and wellbeing. The holistic 715 health screening model—offered by Aboriginal Health Services—was presented as an example of how this approach could work.

PHN's Primary Care Liaison Officers (PCLO) attending the forum said the opportunity to explore primary care approaches to sexual health was vitally important, given the rising notifications rates.

"The forum really highlighted the integral role GPs and primary health care providers play in the prevention, treatment and management of STIs and BBVs," PCLO Maree Lyons-Mic said.

PCLO Emylee Tickner said, "It gave us the opportunity to explore how primary care providers are collaborating across their regions to provide a co-ordinated approach to sexual health."

The Sexual Health Ministerial Advisory Committee was established to provide advice to the Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services on sexual and reproductive health-related matters in the context of the Queensland Sexual Health Strategy.

GPs can find more information at <https://www.health.qld.gov.au/clinical-practice/guidelines-procedures/sex-health> or access sexual health pathways localised for the North Brisbane and Moreton Bay region at <https://brisbanenorth.communityhealthpathways.org>.

News in brief

▶ New aged care guide

The fifth edition of the *RACGP aged care clinical guide (Silver Book)* provides GPs with up-to-date information on the complex care of older people. The Silver Book is now published on a newly designed website and will feature three interweaving parts:

- **Part A:** common clinical conditions in aged care (available online now)
- **Part B:** general approaches to aged care (early-to-mid 2020)
- **Part C:** organisational approaches to aged care (mid-to-late 2020).

The first section is designed to assist in clinical decision-making by presenting a snapshot view of the diagnosis and management of a range of clinical conditions.

For more information visit www.racgp.org.au/silverbook.

▶ My Health Record in practice management

New resources have been developed in partnership with the Australian Association of Practice Management (AAPM) to help connect practice managers to My Health Record.

The *My Health Record Handbook for Practice Managers* takes practice managers and owners through the process of registering their practice to access the My Health Record system along with advice around compliance, consent and privacy.

The *My Health Record Practice Manager Registration Guide* takes practice managers and owners through registering their organisation to use My Health Record in their practice.

Visit <http://bit.ly/MHR-practicemanagers> to download these resources.

▶ Allied health services for Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) clients

On 1 October 2019, referrals from GPs to allied health services changed for DVA clients.

Referrals are valid for up to 12 sessions of treatment or a year, whichever ends first. This new treatment cycle aims to improve the quality of care for DVA clients. The client's usual GP plays a key role as they are the care coordinator in the treatment cycle.

DVA clients can be referred by their usual GP to an allied health provider if they have a clinical need for allied health treatment. Referrals can also be initially made by a medical specialist or hospital discharge planner. Referral arrangements to medical specialists remain unchanged. Dental and optical services are not affected as they do not require a referral.

For more information visit <http://bit.ly/DVA-treatmentcycle>.

▶ New awareness raising measles resources

The Australian Government has commissioned the Australian Academy of Science to develop a suite of educational and promotional materials to raise awareness about measles, with a particular focus on those most at risk of the disease, such as travellers or those born during or after 1966.

New resources for vaccination providers include an educational video for health professionals to raise awareness of increased notifications and the importance of talking to patients about their vaccination status and the availability of catch-up vaccines, along with a suite of articles to support the video.

To access the resources visit <http://bit.ly/AAoS-measles>.

Noticeboard

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

Congratulations to Queensland Mental Health Week Award winners

The winners of Queensland's premier mental health awards were announced last month at a special celebration to honour the work of organisations and individuals empowering those living with mental illness.

As Queensland's only state-wide mental health awards, the celebration recognises individuals, groups and organisations working tirelessly to reduce stigma and support and empower those living with mental illness.

From a longlist of 30 finalists, 10 winners in the were announced, which included James Hill who won the Jeff Cheverton Individual Award and yourtown—Kids Helpline who won the Not-For-Profit Organisation Award.

Congratulations to all the award nominees and winners.

MBS changes to help patients access treatment

Effective from 1 November 2019, major amendments to the Medicare Benefits Scheme (MBS) will allow Australians with severe eating disorders to access comprehensive treatment plans under Medicare.

These changes aim to improve access and affordability of treatment by providing rebates for up to 40 psychological and 20 dietetic services.

For more information on the MBS changes visit <http://bit.ly/MBS-newscheme> or <http://bit.ly/mbsonline-factsheet>.

The APNA workforce survey

APNA has commissioned a national workforce survey annually since 2004, with the aim of equipping nurses working in primary health care with information on the workforce conditions of their profession. The APNA Workforce Survey is the only workforce survey exclusively designed for primary health care nurses across Australia. Collection of this information will enhance APNA's ability to develop evidence-based policy and programs relating to the primary health care nurse workforce.

To participate in the 2019 APNA workforce survey visit <http://bit.ly/APNA-survey>.

Research to help GPs support people with alcohol or drug issues

The University of New South Wales (UNSW) is conducting research in the North Brisbane and Moreton Bay region, to inform the design of strategies to assist GPs in engaging people about their alcohol and other drugs issues. This research is supported by Brisbane North PHN and Queensland Network of Alcohol and Other Drug Agencies (QNADA).

GPs operating in the North Brisbane and Moreton Bay areas are encouraged to participate in interviews (either by phone or in person) with the research team. GPs will be reimbursed for their time. Practice managers and reception staff are invited to participate in paid focus groups conducted by the research team.

For more information or to take part in the study contact Research Officer UNSW, Michala Kowalski via email m.kowalski@unsw.edu.au or phone **02 9385 0449**.

Supporting general practice to deliver mental health services

Brisbane North PHN is seeking to engage with local GPs to understand how we can better support mental health service provision.

GPs play a critical role in maintaining the mental health and wellbeing of their patients, with psychological issues (e.g. depression, mood disorders, anxiety) being the most common health issue currently managed by GPs (Health of the Nation, 2018).

Since 2002, several mental health specific items have been included on the MBS, providing support to GPs coordinating the mental health treatment needs of patients. Additionally, a range of tools and resources for GPs have been developed to enable GPs to support patients with mental health conditions.

As part of our ongoing commitment to supporting GPs, the PHN is undertaking work to identify if these tools are meeting the needs of general practice and to identify any gaps or barriers for GPs accessing these resources.

During November and December, the PHN will work with GPs and other stakeholders to investigate what works well and what prevents GPs accessing these tools, resources and supports. Based on the information developed through this consultation the PHN will co-design appropriate solutions to improve the ability of GPs to deliver mental health services and improve patient outcomes.

For more information contact PHN Mental Health Reform Manager Naomi Lauli on 07 3490 3438 or MHOAD@brisbanenorthphn.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.

November 2019

- | | | | | | |
|-----------|--|-----------|---|-----------|---|
| 07 | Queensland alliance for mental health conference – QAMH
Cairns, Qld
e oleong@qamh.org.au | 15 | Hepatitis B nursing: Advanced management and care – ASHM
Spring Hill, Qld
e linda.starke@ashm.org.au | 23 | Perinatal in practice – Black Dog Institute
Brisbane, Qld
e education@blackdog.org.au |
| 07 | Mental health skills training – Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine
Online
e s.hipkins@acrrm.org.au | 16 | Assessment and management of neck and upper back pain – Australian Association of Musculoskeletal Medicine
Stafford, Qld
e aamm.cert@gmail.com | 25 | Domestic violence seminar series – Non-lethal strangulation: Best practice medical responses – The Northside Alliance Against Domestic Violence
Nundah, Qld |
| 08 | Regional private practice seminar: Performance management – AMA Queensland
Indooroopilly, Qld
e registrations@amaq.com.au | 18 | Working therapeutically with complex trauma clients (level 2): Three phased approach – Blue Knot Foundation
Brisbane, Qld
e training@blueknot.org.au | 25 | Introduction to animal assisted therapy – Therapy Dogs Australia
Burpengary, Qld
e info@therapydog.com.au |
| 08 | Trauma-informed transgender and gender diverse affirmative care – Blue Knot Foundation
Brisbane, Qld
e training@blueknot.org.au | 21 | Heart failure case discussion – GenesisCare
Petrie Terrace, Qld
e krystal.futter@genesiscare.com | 26 | Cardiovascular GP education evening – Mater Education
Morningside, Qld
e Abbie.Watkins@mater.org.au |
| 11 | Domestic violence seminar series – Non-lethal strangulation: Recognising and responding – The Northside Alliance Against Domestic Violence
Nundah, Qld
p 07 3217 2544 | 21 | Resilience and approaches to self care – Australian Centre for Grief and Bereavement
Brisbane, Qld
e education@grief.org.au | 27 | Foundation for trauma informed care and practice (level 1) – Blue Knot Foundation
Brisbane, Qld
e training@blueknot.org.au |
| 12 | Open disclosure workshop – Mater Education
South Brisbane, Qld
e education@mater.org.au | 23 | Postvention awards dinner – StandBy – Support After Suicide
Kelvin Grove, Qld
e standby.bne@uccommunity.org.au | | |

GP bulletin – November 2019

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

Please provide feedback to the GPLO program mngplo@health.qld.gov.au.

HealthPathways update

Newly released HealthPathways:

- vertigo
- scrotal pain or swelling in children
- neck lumps in children
- tinnitus
- otitis externa 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

We have concluded our GPLO led education events for this year and are scheduling events for 2020 based on feedback from local GPs.

To provide suggestions for future events, or to request a practice visit to hear the latest information from your local hospitals and the PHN please email the GP Liaison Team at mngplo@health.qld.gov.au.

Missed a GP education event?

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

Update: Metro North foot ulcer clinics for any foot ulcers

Following on from last month's Network Link article on the new Metro North HHS foot ulcer clinics; these clinics will accept any foot ulcer (acute or chronic) or an acute Charcot foot at RBWH, TPCH, Redcliffe and Caboolture Hospitals.

For more information about this service visit <http://bit.ly/MNHHS-refer> or call the foot ulcer outpatient hotline on **1300 364 938** for more information.

Surgical outpatients and procedural capacity available at Caboolture Hospital

General surgery services at Caboolture Hospital have indicated extra capacity to see patients at Caboolture Hospital general surgical outpatients, with some availability from a procedural perspective as well.

Please be aware of this when considering options for your patients who may be available to go to Caboolture Hospital for assessment and treatment for a general surgical condition. See general surgery referral guidelines at <http://bit.ly/MNHHS-referyourpatient>.

Positions vacant

Community and Oral Health (Metro North HHS) is seeking GPs to join the care team of the residential aged care facilities Cooina House at Kippa Ring and Gannet House in Brighton.

The same team are also looking for a suitable GP to join the Adult Diabetes Service as a GP with Special Interest (GPWSI).

For more information contact Dr Keren Harvey, Director of Medical Service, Community and Oral Health at keren.harvey@health.qld.gov.au.

Highlights from the Metro North Health Forum

Highlights from the recent Metro North Health Forum can now be viewed online, including presentations on:

- The joint PHN / HHS Health Alliance child health project in the Caboolture area and Ageing Well initiative in The Prince Charles Hospital (TPCH) catchment
- The Mental Health Regional Plan, delivered by Metro North Mental Health Director Professor Brett Emmerson and the PHN's Tonita Taylor
- Follow-up care for older people who fall at home, a new joint project involving the Queensland Ambulance Service, TPCH and the PHN's Team Care Coordination program.

Visit health2gether.org.au to watch speaker presentations from the forum.