

Keeping General Practice informed in the changing primary health landscape.

INSIDE:

- [HealthPathways WA](#)
- [Changes to Schedule 8 Prescribing Requirements](#)
- [Changes to Rotavirus Vaccine Brand in WA](#)
- [Digital Health](#)
- [New aged care campaign launched](#)
- [Round 1 2018 RVTS Applications](#)
- [National Cervical Screening Program](#)
- [Education and Training](#)

Welcome to Practice Connect, a fortnightly update for practice managers, nurses and practice administration staff on relevant issues, upcoming events and education.

HealthPathways WA update

Management updates for COPD in General Practice – 21 June

WAPHA, Fiona Stanley Hospital and NPS MedicineWise invite you to attend this update presented by Dr Li Ping Chun, Xiyuan Li and Saloni Shah.

Date: Wednesday, 21 June
Time: 6.00 pm registration and food
6.30 pm to 8.30 pm presentations
Venue: Fiona Stanley Hospital, G2 Lecture Theatre, Education Building
11 Robin Warren Drive, Murdoch
Catering: A light meal will be provided
Registration: <https://waproject.healthpathways.org.au/Events.aspx>
Flyer: <http://bit.ly/HealthPathways-COPD-CPD>

This activity has 4 Category 2 QI&CPD points and 2 PDP points attached.

Introducing the HealthPathways Clinical Editors

The HealthPathways team at WAPHA includes five Clinical Editors (CEs). CEs work in conjunction with clinical stream working groups and/or subject matter experts to write the pathways – each CE is responsible for a number of clinical streams.

Dr Danielle Rebbettes – clinical streams and pathways: child health and gastroenterology

Dr Rebbettes studied her MBBS at the University of Notre Dame and completed her internship and residency at Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital and Joondalup Health Campus. She then worked at Princess Margaret Hospital while studying paediatrics before commencing her GP training. Currently she is working as a HealthPathways WA clinical editor, a GP at Ellen Health and as a Medical Advisor for the WA Medibank team working on piloting and rolling out a suite of chronic disease integrated care programs.



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HealthPathways WA 283 Live Pathways

Changes to Schedule 8 (S8 Medicines) Prescribing Requirements

New legislation has come into effect in WA, replacing the Poisons Act 1964 and Poisons Regulations 1965. The [Medicines and Poisons Act 2014](#) and its subsidiary legislation, the [Medicines and Poisons Regulations 2016](#), contain a number of key reforms for health practitioners and businesses handling medicines. There have also been revisions to the WA Schedule 8 (S8) Medicines Prescribing Code.

Of particular note for WA General Practitioners are the changes to the requirements for valid S8 prescriptions. Whilst previous regulations allowed computer generated prescriptions for S8 Medicines, specific details such as description, quantity, directions and number of repeats, had to be hand written by the prescriber.

As of 30 January 2017, computer generated S8 prescriptions are valid with the prescriber's hand written signature. This is good news for prescribers, as details such as the description, quantity, directions, number of repeats, are no longer required to be hand written.

For further information about how the regulatory changes affect GP prescribing in WA, visit the [Medicines and Poisons Regulation Branch section](#) on the WA Department of Health website.

Change to Rotavirus Vaccine Brand in WA

From 1 July 2017, Rotarix® will replace RotaTeq® as the rotavirus vaccine brand used in Western Australia. For children who initiated rotavirus vaccination prior to 1 July, providers should complete the course which whichever brand vaccine the child has previously received. Rotarix® vaccine will be available to order from mid-June 2017.

For more information read the attached letter from the Communicable Disease Control Directorate http://www.wapha.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/Rotavirus_vaccine_brand_name_change.pdf

Digital Health

ePIP reminder for practices

We've been busy assisting practices who received reclamation letters regarding the ePIP recently. The response period for practices to respond to the letters and lodge exemption claims has now closed. The Department has advised that they have received a higher than anticipated number of responses to the email address, and that it is aware that many practices may not have heard a response to their enquiries.

They have said that so long as an email was lodged within 21 days, any claims for exemption will remain open until the matter can be resolved appropriately. The Department has also suggested that the issuing of formal debt notices to practices required to repay funds is likely to be delayed until all exemption claims can be assessed.

We would also like to remind practices that the upload requirements no longer accumulate across quarters, and that practices must also withdraw prior to the end of the quarter if they do not believe they will achieve their upload targets. The ePIP quarters run according to the following dates:

Quarter 1 2017	1 February – 30 April	Closed
Quarter 2 2017	1 May – 31 July	Current
Quarter 3 2017	1 August – 31 October	
Quarter 4 2017	1 November – 31 January (2018)	

Your Primary Health Liaison can check on your upload activity with the Digital Health Agency should you wish to confirm if you will meet your target. There were over 16,000 shared health summaries uploaded in WA across general practice during the first ePIP quarter for 2017.

Country WA	3,244
Perth North	6,499
Perth South	6,456
Grand Total	16,199

New Medicare Training Modules

The Department of Human Services has released two new modules on their website: Provider Digital Access (PRODA) and Practice Incentive Program (PIP) eHealth incentive. To view all the training modules visit <http://www.medicareaust.com/eClaiming/Modules/index.html>

New aged care campaign launched

A new aged care campaign has been launched to raise awareness of My Aged Care and home care services among older people and their families. The campaign gives people information to encourage them to talk about aged care and plan ahead before a crisis event occurs and to visit the My Aged Care website or ring the phone line when they need services. For more information read the media statement

(<http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/health-mediarel-yr2017-wyatt047.htm>) or visit the My Aged Care website to view and order the new campaign materials (<https://www.myagedcare.gov.au/resources>).

Round 1 2018 RVTS Applications now open – closing 30 June 2017

First round applications for 2018 RVTS training for Remote and Aboriginal Medical Service streams are now open, closing 30 June. For remote stream applicants, new MMM 4+ location eligibility criteria now apply, creating increased opportunities for regional and rural GPs and their communities to benefit from the program.

For eligibility information and application visit www.rvts.org.au

National Cervical Screening Program

The renewed National Cervical Screening Program will be implemented on 1 December 2017, supported by the National Cancer Screening Register.

Until the renewed National Screening Program is implemented existing cervical screening continues as per the current screening pathway for eligible women. It is important that women due for their two yearly cervical screening continue to be tested using a cytology based cervical screening test such as the Pap test.

For more information on interim arrangements please read the news story on our website –

<http://www.wapha.org.au/interim-arrangements-for-the-national-cervical-screening-program/>

Education and Training

To keep our e-news to a manageable size events will only be advertised once. To view previously advertised training please visit our website - <http://www.wapha.org.au/education-events/>

Understanding the complexities of Type 2 Diabetes – 12 or 14 June 2017

Perth Diabetes Care are running education events for all health practitioners and those living with Type 2 Diabetes.

Dates: Monday, 12 June, Pharmaceutical Society of WA, 21 Hamilton Street, Subiaco

Wednesday, 14 June, Women's Health Care Place, 4 The Avenue, Midland

Time: 6.00 pm – 8.00 pm (light refreshments provided)

Register: Email events@perthdiabetescare.com.au or call 6110 0570.

Advance Care Planning (ACP) workshops

This training is suitable for practice nurses, nurse practitioners and NP candidates working in primary care and private practice settings who have patients with chronic diseases, new life-threatening diagnoses, life limiting conditions, increased frailty and who are aged 70 and over and considering supported living. The course comprises two sessions with a choice of venue for Session 1.

Date: Session 1: 19 June at Cockburn Youth Centre, Success or

26 June at Herb Graham Recreation Centre, Mirrabooka

Session 2: 31 July, Cancer Council WA, Shenton Park

Time: 6.30 pm to 8.30 pm for all sessions (registration from 6.15 pm)

Cost: \$30 (for two sessions)

Registration: Session 1: Success - <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/a-primary-care-nurse-specific-event-advance-care-planning-workshop-session-1-success-tickets-34945642357>

Session 1: Mirrabooka - <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/a-primary-care-nurse-specific-event-advance-care-planning-workshop-session-1-mirrabooka-tickets-34961260070>

Register for Session 2 at the same links as above.

Flyer: <http://www.wapha.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/Primary-Care-Nurses-ACP-Workshops.pdf>

ENT Conundrums – Thursday, 15 June 2017

Attune hearing are sponsoring this event which includes practical stations on video head impulse test and testing for BPPV and performing repositioning manoeuvres.

Date: Thursday, 15 June 2017

Time: 5.30 pm to 9.30 pm

Catering: includes dinner

Register by emailing Jandakot@attune.com.au. View the flyer for more information <http://www.wapha.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/EndConundrums.pdf>

ACRA 27th annual scientific meeting – 7-9 August 2017; early bird registration closing 16 June

Early bird registrations for the Australian Cardiovascular Health and Rehabilitation Association (ACRA) 2017 ASM close on 16 June. For further information visit their website - <http://www.acra.net.au/acra-2017-asm/>.

Palliative Approach for GPs and Practice Nurses – 17 June

This five hour evidence-based workshop aims to provide an overview of palliative care and the role of general practice.

Date: Saturday, 17 June 2017

Time: 9.00 am to 2.30 pm (registrations from 8.30 am)

Morning tea and lunch will be provided

Venue: The Boulevard Centre, The Lake Suite, 99 The Boulevard Floreat

Registration: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/gp-education-event-palliative-approach-for-gps-practice-nurses-5088-tickets-34786471272>

Gynaecological Cancers and Survivorship: Midwest General Practice Update – 19 June 2017

The WA Cancer and Palliative Care Network, in collaboration with Cancer Council WA and the WA Clinical Oncology Group are facilitating a free education evening for GPs and practice nurses on the topic of gynaecological cancers and survivorship. Presentations will be delivered by a range of specialists and there will be an opportunity to ask questions.

Date: Monday, 19 June 2017

Time: 6.30 pm to 8.45 pm

Venue: Rodanthe Room, Geraldton Health Campus, 51-85 Shenton Street, Geraldton

Video Conf: Video conferencing is available for this event

Registration: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/gynaecological-cancers-survivorship-midwest-general-practice-update-tickets-32460667731>

Dementia Training Australia – Guest Lecture – Prevention of Dementia – 20 June 2017

Health professionals with an interest in dementia care; wanting to further their dementia knowledge; wanting to keep up-to-date with recent research; or networking with colleagues may be interested in this guest lecture presented by Dementia Training Australia.

Date: Tuesday, 20 June 2017

Time: 6.00 pm to 7.00 pm with light refreshments available from 5.30 pm.

Venue: The Theatre, Technology Park Function Centre, 2 Brodie Hall Drive, Bentley

Registration: <https://register.eventarc.com/38364/prevention-of-dementia>

Indigenous LGBTQI Inclusive Practices in Mental Health and Suicide Prevention – 23 and 24 June 2017

We are hosting two workshops which will be presented by Black Rainbow. These one day workshops will draw on individual and an organisational self-reflection on how it can improve accessibility and services for Indigenous LGBTQI clients. The training aims to strengthen Indigenous communities and improve the access to mental health services by Indigenous Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Queer, Transgender and Intersex people and decrease homophobia and transphobia associated trauma.

Dates: Friday, 23 June or Saturday, 24 June

Time: 9.00 am to 5.00 pm

Venue: WAPHA Rivervale office, 7/7 Tanunda Drive, Rivervale

Catering: Morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea is provided

Registration: by 15 June

<https://www.cognitofrms.com/WAPrimaryHealthAlliance/IndigenousLGBTQIInclusivePracticesInMentalHealthAndSuicidePrevention>

For more information view the flyer http://www.wapha.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/170623_Indigenous-LGBTQI-Inclusive-Practices-in-Mental-Health-and-Suicide-Prevention-Workshop.pdf

Viral Hepatitis Case Discussion: Hepatitis B and C – 28 June 2017

This is an educational case discussion evening for primary care practitioners who see hepatitis B and C patients in Perth or for clinicians who would simply like to learn more about chronic hepatitis B and C through case studies.

Date: Wednesday, 28 June 2017

Time: 6.30 pm to 9.00 pm

Cost: FREE (canapes and drinks on arrival; dinner included)

Venue: Pan Pacific Perth, 207 Adelaide Terrace, Perth, 6000

Registration: <http://courses.ashm.org.au/eventinfo/?id=b19058f5-9346-e711-8103-6c3be5a96670> by 23 June.

For further details contact May Wang on 02 8204 0723 or email may.wang@ashm.org.au . This course has been approved for 4 Category 2 RACGP points.

Chronic Disease Management Workshop – 30 June

The free half-day workshop explores what it takes to develop successful disease management programs maximising business and practice nurse efficiency. This workshop is designed to improve processes and improve patient outcomes.

Date: Friday, 30 June 2017

Time: 9.00 am to 1.00 pm

Venue: Parmelia Hilton Perth

Registration: <http://www.ruralhealthwest.com.au/general-practice/practice-and-business-support/webinars-and-education>

Statins: optimising therapy, addressing intolerance – starting July 2017

NPS MedicineWise provide educational visits for GPs, practice nurses and pharmacists. From July 2017, visits will be available on the above topic which provides an independent round-up of the latest evidence and guidelines, as well as access to a new tool that facilitates a systematic and effective approach to managing suspected statin intolerance. View their flyer for more information http://www.wapha.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/NPS1777_EV_Invite_Statins.pdf

Educational visits can also be delivered virtually (via skype), at a time and place that's convenient for you – read the attached flyer for more information http://www.wapha.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/NPS_VirtualVisits_PromoBrochure_4email.pdf

Medicare Health Provider Compliance Webinar – 6 July 2017

Presented by the Department of Health, this 1-hour webinar will cover correct claiming, voluntary acknowledgements and adjustments.

Date: Thursday, 6 July 2017

Time: 11 am (1 pm AEST)

Cost: Free for Australian Association of Practice Manager (AAPM) members; \$27.50 for non-members

Registration: Closing 4 July – registrations essential; register at [http://www.aapm.org.au/Education-Events/Events-Calendar/ctl/Details/Mid/2740/ItemID/419?ContainerSrc=\[G\]Containers/Choices-Tomato/NoTitle](http://www.aapm.org.au/Education-Events/Events-Calendar/ctl/Details/Mid/2740/ItemID/419?ContainerSrc=[G]Containers/Choices-Tomato/NoTitle)

Head and Neck Cancers: An update for GPs and Practice Nurses – 11 July

This free seminar will provide an update for GPs and practice nurses on the prevention and early detection of head and neck cancers, as well as an overview of treatment options and the ongoing needs of patients.

Date: Tuesday, 11 July

Time: 6.30 pm to 8.30 pm (registration and refreshments from 6.00 pm)

Venue: The Bendat Parent and Community Centre – 36 Dodds Street, Wembley

Registration: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/head-and-neck-cancers-an-update-for-gps-tickets-34842653314>

Health Promotion Events in June

Is your practice looking for a health promotion for your practice? Each month we will provide a list of upcoming health promotions for the next month along with resources and contact details.

Bowel Cancer Awareness Month

June is bowel cancer awareness month. The WA Primary Health Alliance is currently focusing on improving participation rates in the National Bowel Cancer Screening Program (NBCSP). If detected early, 90% of bowel cancer cases can be successfully treated.

Check out the Cancer Council Western Australia's **"Stick it to Number 2"** Campaign for interactive patient information including survivor stories: <http://www.stickittonumber2.com.au/>

In addition, there are a number of free resources available to assist you in promoting participation in the National Bowel Cancer Screening Program (NBCSP) within your practice including:

- 'A Gift for Living' posters and brochures promoting the NBCSP available in 6 languages via: <http://www.cancerscreening.gov.au/internet/screening/publishing.nsf/Content/resources-menu-bowel>
- A GP letter for mailout to 49 year old patients to encourage them to do the test when they receive it around their 50th Birthday. There is evidence that a letter signed by a person's GP increases participation in screening. Template available at: <http://www.cancerscreening.gov.au/internet/screening/publishing.nsf/Content/gp-template-letter>
- A CATPlus recipe for your practice software to identify potentially under-screened patients in your practice. Contact your Primary Health Liaison if you would like assistance with this.
- See GP information sheet from the National Bowel Cancer Screening Program for more information <http://www.wapha.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/FactSheet-BowelCancer-GPs.pdf>
- New NBCSP Webinar for nurses working in general practice – a one-hour online seminar on bowel cancer, screening and how nurses working in general practice can approach bowel screening with patients, developed by Australian Primary Health Care Nurses Association. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RXbbrRU--KE&feature=youtu.be>

Men's Health Week: 12 – 18 June

Resources for events around Men's Health Week are available from the following website/links:

- Logos, Flyers, Posters, Factsheets under 'Resource' tab: <http://www.menshealthweek.org.au/En/Default.aspx>
- Register your event: <http://www.menshealthweek.org.au/En/RegisterEvent.aspx>
- Event ideas: <http://www.menshealthweek.org.au/En/Pages/7fa0ed/Get-Involved.aspx>

Purple Bra Day: 23 June

23 June is Purple Bra Day, supported by Breast Cancer Care WA. For more information and resources visit <https://www.purplebraday.com.au/resources/>