

# Practice Connect

Issue 28: 12 September

Keeping General Practice informed in the changing primary health landscape.

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

## Immunisation Update

### Hepatitis B Vaccine Supply Shortage – ATAGI Advice

The Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI) advise that there is currently a shortage of the adult formulation of hepatitis B vaccines in Australia. The shortage has impacted on private market supply.

Supply for the National Immunisation Program (NIP) has not been affected at this time, therefore the adult formulation of hepatitis B vaccines as part of the NIP expansion measure should continue as scheduled for all eligible individuals.

ATAGI has developed clinical advice for vaccination providers on the use of hepatitis B vaccines during the current shortage. This advice is now available on the Immunise Australia website and can be accessed through the following link: [http://www.immunise.health.gov.au/internet/immunise/publishing.nsf/Content/clinical-updates-and-news#toc\\_hepB-short](http://www.immunise.health.gov.au/internet/immunise/publishing.nsf/Content/clinical-updates-and-news#toc_hepB-short).

### Zostavax Vaccine: Pre-vaccination checklist now available

The Australian Medical Association (AMA) has assisted in the development of the Zostavax pre-vaccination checklist with the GP Roundtable, ATAGI and the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA). It is advised that GPs use this checklist to assist in decision making when administering this live attenuated vaccine to eligible patients.

The checklist can be incorporated into practice software and is available here: [https://ama.com.au/sites/default/files/documents/Pre-vaccination Checklist for Zostavax Administration - FINAL.DOCX](https://ama.com.au/sites/default/files/documents/Pre-vaccination%20Checklist%20for%20Zostavax%20Administration%20-%20FINAL.DOCX)

Please see the following National Centre for Immunisation Research & Surveillance fact sheets for further information on the Zoster vaccine.

- Zoster Vaccine - Frequently Asked Questions  
[http://www.ncirs.edu.au/assets/provider\\_resources/fact-sheets/zoster-vaccine-FAQ.pdf](http://www.ncirs.edu.au/assets/provider_resources/fact-sheets/zoster-vaccine-FAQ.pdf)
- Zoster Vaccine for Australian Adults: information for immunisation providers  
[http://www.ncirs.edu.au/assets/provider\\_resources/fact-sheets/zoster-vaccine-fact-sheet.pdf](http://www.ncirs.edu.au/assets/provider_resources/fact-sheets/zoster-vaccine-fact-sheet.pdf)



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**HealthPathways WA 314 Live Pathways**

## Digital Health Update

### Giving Feedback to Software Vendors

WAPHA's Digital Health Project Officer Emma Costello will be heading to Melbourne on Tuesday, 26 September to present to the Medical Software Industry Association (MSIA) Annual Summit about working better with health providers.

Emma will provide a solo presentation to the group before taking part in a panel discussion with representatives from government agencies and other organisations. The opportunity to present arose following feedback given to the MSIA on behalf of providers regarding poorly written and scoped proposals, frustration with products not fulfilling the intended need, as well as the ability for providers to confidently communicate their needs and understand technology.

Emma will be drawing on her experience in marketing and communications and the public sector to offer some advice to vendors on how to better understand the technology needs of health providers, communicate their products and services more effectively, as well as understand the procurement procedures of government agencies.

If you have had any experience with software vendors that you would like to share or any suggestions to provide to vendors regarding how to work better with health providers, please email [digitalhealth@wapha.org.au](mailto:digitalhealth@wapha.org.au).

### No Changes to ePIP

The August edition of the Incentives News Update issued by the Department of Human Services announced there will be no changes to the eHealth PIP Incentive for the time being. The August edition of the Incentive News Update is available here: <https://www.humanservices.gov.au/sites/default/files/2017/08/8646-1708en.pdf>.

The issue also includes important information on how to manage your uploads and withdrawing from the ePIP, should your practice no longer wish to take part in this program.

There has been no indication or further information provided as to any intended changes in the future.

### My Health Record Roadshow Webinar

If you missed out on WAPHA's recent My Health Record Roadshow events in August, a recording of the one hour webinar is now available on the WAPHA website here: <http://www.wapha.org.au/health-professionals/digitalhealth/myhealth-record/>.

The My Health Record section of the WAPHA website has also been updated with an up to date set up checklist, consumer guides and support materials.

## HealthPathways Update – Introducing the HealthPathways Clinical Editors

The HealthPathways WA team at WAPHA includes five Clinical Editors (CEs). Each CE is responsible for a number of clinical streams and works in conjunction with clinical stream working groups and/or Subject Matter Experts to write the pathways.

Dr Richa Tayal has recently joined as a CE with the HealthPathways WA team and is responsible for the clinical streams and pathways for Immunisation, Migrant and Refugee Health, UTI and cellulitis.

Dr Richa Tayal studied medicine at the University of Western Australia and completed her hospital training at Royal Perth Hospital and Princess Margaret Hospital before starting GP training. She is currently working as a HealthPathways WA CE as well as a GP in Currambine and is involved in teaching medical students at the University of Western Australia.

HealthPathways WA have now reached **314** live pathways. The most recently published pathways are:

- Insect Allergy
- Interdisciplinary Persistent Pain Programs
- Haematology Advice
- Parental Iron
- Iron Deficiency Anaemia

To access HealthPathways and to view recently published pathways please contact your WAPHA Primary Health Liaison or the HealthPathways team at [healthpathways@wapha.org.au](mailto:healthpathways@wapha.org.au)

## Notice: Fraudulent information circulating through WA GPs

WAPHA has received a report from the Peel area about a patient providing falsified documents to various GPs to obtain multiple amounts of the same medications. This is a reminder to ensure you check referrals carefully and follow-up with the referrer should you have any concerns.

If you have any concerns regarding the issues mentioned above, please call WA CrimeStoppers on 1800 333 000 or file a report through the following website: <https://www.crimestopperswa.com.au/make-a-report/>.

## Free Mammogram Screening – Northam & Roebourne

Breast cancer is the most common life threatening cancer for women and one in eight women in Australia will develop breast cancer in their lifetime. Having a screening mammogram (breast x-ray) every two years significantly increases the change of a woman surviving breast cancer and reduces the amount of treatment required. More than 75% of breast cancers occur in women over the age of 50. Research shows that screening is most effective for this age group.

BreastScreen WA's mobile service will be located at Northam and Roebourne locations, available to woman aged 40 and over who will be able to access the free screening mammography service. For the times, dates and locations of this free service, please see below:

- The BreastScreen WA mobile service will be available at Roebourne District Hospital, Hampton Street from Friday, 29 September 2017 to Wednesday, 4 October 2017.
- The BreastScreen WA mobile service will be available at Northam Library (Carpark), Fitzgerald Street from Thursday, 28 September 2017 to Tuesday, 14 November 2017. To promote this free service please view the following flyers
  - <http://www.wapha.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/BreastScreen-WA-mobile-visit-Northam-2017-BS000013-BSWA-Rural-A4-poster-Aboriginal-women.pdf>
  - <http://www.wapha.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/BreastScreen-WA-mobile-visit-Northam-2017-0914-Rural-A4-poster.pdf>

To order BreastScreen WA resources, please see the following order form: <http://www.wapha.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/HP8368-BSWA-Resource-Order-Form-Jun2017-002.pdf>

## Australian Immunisation Register (AIR) Refugee or Migrant Registration

Immunisation providers are able to register refugees or migrants on the AIR without a Medicare card. This also applies for other individuals who do not have a Medicare card. When refugees, migrants or other individual receive a Medicare card, the immunisation provider will need to notify the AIR of the Medicare card details and the records will be merged.

The AIR accepts immunisation information sent via the following channels:

- Medicare online claiming - a software application that allows the transmission of AIR data via the vaccination provider's desktop software. For more information about Medicare online claiming, please contact 1800 700 199.
- The internet - approved vaccination providers can send immunisation details using the Record Encounter function on the AIR secure area within the Department of Human Services website. To request access to the AIR secure site, click on the 'online request access form' link on the following webpage: <https://www.humanservices.gov.au/organisations/health-professionals/enablers/accessing-air-using-hpos>.
- Manually - by completing either an Immunisation Encounter form or an Immunisation History form and sending it to the AIR. Manual forms are available to print from the DHS website or hardcopies can be requested by completing the stationery order form available at: <https://www.humanservices.gov.au/organisations/health-professionals/forms>.

Please note that all information sent to the AIR must be accompanied by a current Medicare provider number or an AIR registration number.

If you have any further enquiries, please contact the AIR Internet Help Desk on 1300 650 039.

## Invitations to GPs: Study looking at cochlear implants in older adults

GPs are invited to participate in a 30-minute phone interview and survey to learn about their experiences with working with older people with profound hearing loss. The Macquarie University study is looking at the barriers and facilitators to cochlear implantation in older adults.

The study will be taking place in September and October and there will be a \$100.00 stipend for all participants. For further information please see the following flyer: [http://www.wapha.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/Cochlear-implant-study\\_Healthcare-professional-flyer.pdf](http://www.wapha.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/Cochlear-implant-study_Healthcare-professional-flyer.pdf)

If you are a GP and would like to participate in this study, please contact Mia Bierbaum at [mia.bierbaum@mq.edu.au](mailto:mia.bierbaum@mq.edu.au) or on 9850 2445 for more information about the study.

## 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/>.

### Perth Practice Managers Network – 27 September

The Australian Association of Practice Management (AAPM) is hosting a networking seminar for practice managers across WA to attend.

Date: Wednesday, 27 September

Time: 5:30pm – 7:30pm

Venue: Ledge Heath, Level 2, 420 Bagot Road, Subiaco WA

Cost: Free to both AAPM and non-AAPM members

Register: To register and for further information, please visit the following website:  
[http://www.aapm.org.au/Education-Events/Events-Calendar/ctl/Details/Mid/2740/ItemID/438?ContainerSrc=\[G\]Containers/Choices-Tomato/NoTitle](http://www.aapm.org.au/Education-Events/Events-Calendar/ctl/Details/Mid/2740/ItemID/438?ContainerSrc=[G]Containers/Choices-Tomato/NoTitle).

### National Cervical Screening Program Renewal Workshops – September & October

These full day Sydney and Cairns courses aims to update GPs or Primary Care Providers on the National Cervical Screening Program Renewal, rolling out across Australia in December 2017. Live Stream attendance is available from anywhere in Australia and this event attracts 13 Category 2 RACGP QI&CPD points.

Date: Saturday, 23 September or Saturday, 28 October

Time: 8:00am – 4:30pm

Cost: Free

Register: To register and for further information on the Sydney course, please visit the following website:  
<http://www.iriseducation.com.au/cinsw.html>.  
To register and for further information on the Cairns course, please visit the following website:  
<http://www.iriseducation.com.au/ncspr.html>.

If you have questions, please contact Rachael Brennan at [rachaelbrennan@iriseducation.com.au](mailto:rachaelbrennan@iriseducation.com.au) or 0481 676 054.

### Benchmark sessions: Chronic Disease Support Program - October

The Chronic Disease Self-Management Support Program is a short course designed to develop the knowledge and skills required to support an individual or client with a chronic disease through assessing their chronic disease and risk factors, exploring readiness for change, identifying health behaviours to change and working with the client and their health professionals to develop a chronic disease self-management plan.

Date: Wednesday, 4 October or Wednesday, 18 October

Time: 8:45pm – 4:30pm

Venue: Currumbine Community Centre, Currumbine or Swan House Community Room, Applecross

Cost: Free

Register: To register and for further information please see the following flyer: [http://www.wapha.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/171004\\_CDSP\\_Currumbine.pdf](http://www.wapha.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/171004_CDSP_Currumbine.pdf)

### **Benchmark sessions: Foot Health Assessment Program - October**

The Foot Health Assessment Program is designed to provide skills and knowledge for a range of health professionals and others working within Indigenous Health to provide detailed information and advice in relation to foot health management.

Date: Tuesday, 3 October or Thursday, 19 October  
Time: 8:45pm – 8:30pm  
Venue: Bakers House, Harrisdale or WAPHA, Rivervale  
Cost: Free  
Register: To register and for further information please see the following flyer: [http://www.wapha.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/171003\\_FootHealth\\_Harrisdale.pdf](http://www.wapha.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/171003_FootHealth_Harrisdale.pdf)

### **Benchmark sessions: Nutrition Support Program - October**

The Nutrition Support Program is designed to provide skills and knowledge for a range of health professionals and others working within Indigenous Health to provide detailed information and advice in relation to nutrition and dietary management.

Date: Wednesday, 4 October or Tuesday, 17 October  
Time: 8:45am – 4:30pm  
Venue: Secret Harbour Surf Life Saving Club or Tuart Hill Community Centre  
Cost: Free  
Register: To register and for further information please see the following flyer: [http://www.wapha.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/171004\\_Nutrition\\_SecretHarbour.pdf](http://www.wapha.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/171004_Nutrition_SecretHarbour.pdf)

### **Benchmark sessions: Otitis Media Management Program – October & November**

The Otitis Media Management Program is designed to develop the knowledge and skills required for professionals working in Indigenous health to safely assess the aural health of individuals and implement best practice management guidelines.

Date: Thursday, 5 October or Wednesday, 1 November  
Time: 8:45pm – 4:30pm  
Venue: Secret Harbour Surf Life Saving Club, Secret Harbour or St John of God Midland Public & Private Hospital, Midland  
Cost: Free  
Register: To register and for further information please see the following flyers: [http://www.wapha.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/171005\\_OtitisMedia\\_SecretHarbour.pdf](http://www.wapha.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/171005_OtitisMedia_SecretHarbour.pdf)

### **Advance Care Planning (ACP) Workshop– October & November**

This workshop aims to increase the knowledge, skills and confidence of GPs and primary care teams to initiate ACP conversations. Evidence suggests better outcomes are experienced when an ACP is introduced early, rather than a reaction to a decline in a condition or crisis situation. Health care professionals, families and patients alike benefit from advance care planning. This activity has been approved for CPD points in the QI&CPD 2017-2019 triennium by RACGP and ACRRM. Three (3) Category 2 points apply.

Date: 5 October (Albany), 11 October (Bunbury), 18 October (Broome), 26 October (North Metro), 30 October (Geraldton), 1 November (Peel) or 15 November (Peel), 21 November (South Metro?)  
Time: 5:45pm – 8:30pm  
Cost: Free  
Register: To register and for further information please view the following flyer: <http://www.wapha.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/Advance-Care-Planning-in-Primary-Care-All-dates.pdf>

### Diabetes Self-Management Workshops – October – December

Diabetes WA are hosting the SMART series and DESMOND workshops throughout October to December. The SMART programs are a range of short group education sessions designed to help better manage patient's type 2 diabetes. The DESMOND workshops are full day courses designed to give people an overview on how to self-manage their type 2 diabetes.

Date: October - December

Cost: Free for NDSS Registrants and Diabetes WA members.

Register: To register and for further information on dates, times and locations please view the Group Education Flyer: [http://www.wapha.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/Group-Education-Programs-Flyer\\_Oct-Dec-2017.pdf](http://www.wapha.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/Group-Education-Programs-Flyer_Oct-Dec-2017.pdf)

### Latest Advances in Pharmacological Pain Management – Differentiating from Traditional Opioids

Presented by Professor Stephan Schug, this workshop aims to update GPs about the recent developments in pain management, including an overview of PALEXIA® IR (tapentadol immediate release) and PALEXIA® SR (tapentadol sustained release) clinical trials and patient experiences.

Date: Monday, 23 October (Mean Fiddler Restaurant, Albany WA) or Thursday, 26 October

Time: 6:30pm – 9:15pm

Venue: or Andiamo Restaurant, Rockingham WA

Cost: Free

Register: To register and for further information please view the following flyer: <http://www.wapha.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/23rd-October-Albany-Irina-Wil.pdf>

### Health Promotion Events in September

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

#### R U OK? Day – 14 September

R U OK? Day aims to raise awareness about suicide prevention and to encourage people to meaningfully connect with people around them and support anyone struggling with life. This website includes resources, information on how to start a conversation and ways to register and host an event.

Website: <https://www.ruok.org.au/>