

# Generally Speaking

Information for Gold Coast general practices

ISSUE: February 2018

www.healthyc.com.au

## Changes to codeine access from 1 February 2018

From 1 February 2018 medicines containing codeine are no longer available to consumers over the counter at pharmacies.

The Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) upscheduled codeine to a Schedule 4 prescription only drug because of evidence about its safety and effectiveness. Evidence shows that over-the-counter medicines containing codeine provide little additional benefit in pain relief in comparison to other similar medicines without codeine. Furthermore, codeine can be addictive and with regular use, patients can become dependent on it, leading to misuse and in extreme cases, death. In Australia, there are over 150 codeine related deaths per year.

You may have patients requiring specific support to manage their codeine dependency or addiction issues. The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) has developed and compiled resources to support you to develop an appropriate management plan and talk with your patients about alternatives to manage their pain more effectively and safely:

[www.racgp.org.au/your-practice/guidelines/upscheduling-of-codeine/](http://www.racgp.org.au/your-practice/guidelines/upscheduling-of-codeine/)

In addition to these resources, Queensland Health has commenced delivery of a specialist telephone support service for medical practitioners in Queensland. The Alcohol and Drug Clinical Advisory Service provides on-call addiction medical specialists who can provide clinical advice regarding the management of patients with codeine dependency or other alcohol and drug concerns. The service is available from 8.00am – 11.00pm seven days a week by calling 1800 290 928. GPs can also access a useful prescriber toolkit at:

[www.scriptwise.org.au/codeine/prescriber-toolkit/](http://www.scriptwise.org.au/codeine/prescriber-toolkit/)

Patients seeking information should be directed to the Alcohol and Drug Information Service (ADIS) on 1800 177 833 for counselling, information and referral to treatment services.

## Falls and Balance clinic

GPs with patients who have experienced multiple falls, gait instability and falls with significant complications can refer their patients to the Falls and Balance clinic in Robina, which provides a multidisciplinary outpatient service for clients.

The Falls and Balance clinic commenced in 2011 and primarily



*Falls and Balance Clinic staff (from left to right): Greg Wootton (Physiotherapist), Dr Suba Kumar (Geriatrician), Dr Pallavi Bansal (Rehabilitation Physician), Dr Leah Goodwin (Rehabilitation Physician), Maree Meuwesen (Pharmacist) and Maggie Phelan (Clinical Nurse Consultant)*

targets older aged clients with undiagnosed falls secondary to musculoskeletal disabilities, multiple co-morbidities and frailty.

Clients who attend this clinic undergo a comprehensive multidisciplinary falls risk assessment including a medical review aimed at providing an early diagnosis, initial care planning, recommended preventative treatment and timely referral to appropriate community agencies. This includes an initial falls risk assessment with a medical specialist (geriatrician or rehabilitation physician), nurse, physiotherapist and pharmacist whereby demographics, risk factors, physical outcome measures, current medications and co-morbidities are identified.

Recommendations of further investigations and appropriate falls prevention strategies are discussed with the client and the primary care provider receives detailed correspondence. Clients are reviewed in the clinic approximately six months later (or earlier as required, depending on needs) to monitor progress, assess investigations, commence new treatments as required and assess changes in physical outcomes in response to falls prevention strategies. This clinic does not provide therapy interventions or rehabilitation but aims to provide assessment for undiagnosed and complicated falls.

GPs who might have patients who could benefit from this service can find referral templates on the HealthyGC website at: [www.healthyc.com.au/Referrals/Adult-Community-Health-Referral-Templates.aspx](http://www.healthyc.com.au/Referrals/Adult-Community-Health-Referral-Templates.aspx) under the 'Falls and Balance Clinic' drop-down for each medical software.

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Editorial deadline February 20, 2018

Supporting GPs and General Practice  
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GOLD COAST

An Australian Government Initiative

# GP Communiqué



**Dr David Rowlands**  
Gold Coast Primary Health Network (GCPHN) Board Chair

It will be an exciting year ahead for Gold Coast Primary Health Network (GCPHN), with a series of multidisciplinary working groups for clinicians already underway, as part of the journey to build a truly integrated health system for the Gold Coast. Partnering with Gold Coast Health (GCH) and General Practice Gold Coast (GPGC) the aim of the Integrated Care Alliance (ICA) is to improve coordination of care, increase efficiency and effectiveness of health services for people and engage and support health care providers to facilitate improvements in the patient journey.

The initial working groups, which commenced in 2017, provided both GCPHN and GCH with the opportunity to refine the workshop process and helped us to develop processes to validate the developed models of care. We are continuing to work on how we can support the primary care sector and improve coordination of care to ensure people receive the right care at the right place at the right time by the right person.

It is also timely to remind you of our HealthyGC Health Services Directory, one of the most comprehensive online health directories, listing more than 3000 local services. The directory is managed by GCPHN and was built to help health professionals and consumers access reliable and consistent information about local health services. If you are a healthcare professional based within the Gold Coast region, you can use the Health Services Directory to promote your service to the community, other healthcare professionals and other service providers.

The website is also the place to find up to date resources, referral templates and guidelines, news and professional events. If you haven't visited the HealthyGC website ([www.healthycg.com.au](http://www.healthycg.com.au)) recently, be sure to visit the site and have a look. I am sure you will find it an invaluable resource that you will return to for local, relevant information in the future.

Finally, the My Health Record (MyHRE) expansion program will be a big focus for GCPHN in 2018, with information sessions scheduled for general practice, pharmacy and allied health in the coming weeks. For further details about these events visit [www.healthycg.com.au](http://www.healthycg.com.au) or contact our Digital Health team on 07 5635 2455.



**Dr Lisa Beecham**  
General Practice Gold Coast (GPGC) Board Chair

Welcome Back! I trust everyone had a lovely break and are all now ready for 2018 and the exciting opportunities ahead. The Integrated Care Alliance (ICA) which has representatives from Gold Coast Primary Health Network (GCPHN), Gold Coast Health (GCH) and General Practice Gold Coast (GPGC) is continuing to progress with several of our local GPs involved with re-designing the future of healthcare here on the Gold Coast. If you haven't yet been involved with any of the Models of Care workshops or other meetings, there is still time to get involved and help with driving improvement with integration of health services across the Coast and improving patient outcomes. If you are interested please email [gcescchi@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:gcescchi@health.qld.gov.au) for more information.

With the changes to the codeine upscheduling there are valuable resources on the NPS website for consumers and clinicians: [www.nps.org.au/medical-info/clinical-topics/over-the-counter-codeine-changes-to-supply](http://www.nps.org.au/medical-info/clinical-topics/over-the-counter-codeine-changes-to-supply). Also the Pain for Gain program at GCPHN is also a really valuable program for patients: [www.healthycg.com.au/services-TPIG/](http://www.healthycg.com.au/services-TPIG/)

GPGC is co-hosting an immunisation forum event with the Public Health Unit (PHU) on the 21 February 2018. If you miss this event and want to view the presentations, please email us via the details below. Topics covered include: what happened with the flu last year and what's new?, pregnancy vaccines, what's happening with measles, chickenpox vaccines and strategies to maximise vaccine coverage in local practices. In addition, MenACWY will now be government funded. GPGC is also sending out the PHU newsletter to our database. If you don't wish to subscribe please send an email to GPGC.

On the 3 March 2018 GPGC is also co-hosting the Women and Children's Health Symposium and I would highly recommend this excellent education event. See [www.healthycg.com.au](http://www.healthycg.com.au) for details.

At GPGC we always aim to help deliver what our membership wants and needs. Are there any gaps you perceive either in General Practice education or training or networking opportunities? Please email us any ideas you have or come along to the networking event at the Wine Barrel on March 29 to help shape the coming year for GPGC. Put it in your diary now! Any feedback is welcome. Contact us via [admin@gpgc.com.au](mailto:admin@gpgc.com.au) or [elaine@gpgc.com.au](mailto:elaine@gpgc.com.au) or [lisabeecham@gmail.com](mailto:lisabeecham@gmail.com) at any time.



## Australia Day honours for Dr Neil Bartels

Dr Bartels, who has worked as a medical superintendent for Dysart Hospital in remote Queensland for many years, has been awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) for services to rural health. Dr Bartels has been an established and respected member of the medical community on the Gold Coast, and in particular in the Carrara/Nerang area, for over twenty years. Many of his patients have been with him throughout this time and are now bringing their children and grandchildren to the practice. This is testament to the level of care and commitment displayed by Dr Bartels and we would like to acknowledge his contribution to the Gold Coast area.

# General Practice Liaison Unit

## New clinics for patients with significant spasticity

Gold Coast Health is expanding the Specialist Rehabilitation Services with the addition of new 'rehab spasticity clinics'. These clinics will be held weekly at the Gold Coast University Hospital and are for patients aged 18 or older, who have clinically significant spasticity because of previous strokes or acquired brain injuries.

Patients will be assessed by a medical specialist who may offer them botox injections and/or further treatment by a multidisciplinary team of allied health providers. Dr Kean Ming Wong, a Rehabilitation Medicine Senior Medical Officer, said the new clinics will increase the treatment options for patients in the Gold Coast region. "Medical treatment such as Botox will complement the existing treatment options and help to maximise their effectiveness," he said.

GPs can refer eligible patients by email to [GCHsubacute@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:GCHsubacute@health.qld.gov.au). All referrals should be addressed to Dr Kean Ming Wong and include the relevant medical history and all current medications.



Clinicians delivering the spasticity clinic (from left to right): Leah Burt (senior OT), Dr Kean Ming Wong, Sandra Kay (senior PT)

## Health Provider Portal - The Viewer

A reminder to all GPs who have not yet registered to access the Qld Health Provider Portal, that you can do so here: [www.health.qld.gov.au/clinical-practice/data-base-tools/health-provider-portal/gps-resources/register](http://www.health.qld.gov.au/clinical-practice/data-base-tools/health-provider-portal/gps-resources/register)

Also a reminder to those GPs who may need to update their details on the Secure Transfer services (STS) address book, you can do so by updating your details on this form which is available to download on [www.healthyc.com.au/News-TheViewer](http://www.healthyc.com.au/News-TheViewer)

### Recent HPP enhancements:

The Advance Care Planning (ACP) tracker will provide authorised users of The Viewer with access to an application for tracking Advance Care Planning interactions and displaying current documents. The ACP tracker application has been developed to allow for collection of data and sharing of clinical information between health professionals regarding patient choices.

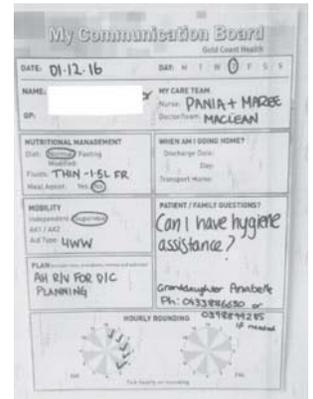
A new icon labelled ACP will now be visible in the menu bar. Clicking on this icon will launch the tracker and display Advance Care Planning documents and comments for the person, with the most recent on top.

The General Practice Liaison Unit is based at the Gold Coast University Hospital and supported by Gold Coast Health and Gold Coast Primary Health Network.

The unit is tasked with improving patient care by facilitating and strengthening healthcare integration between Gold Coast hospitals and primary care providers. To contact: [GCGPLU@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:GCGPLU@health.qld.gov.au)

## Patient care communication boards in Gold Coast Health

Patient care communication boards (called 'My Communication Boards') have been implemented at Gold Coast Health (GCH), in what has proven to be a successful attempt at improving communications between clinicians, GPs and other care workers for patients in hospital. Due to inconsistent usage of current patient whiteboards that are in place, the team at GCH felt there was potential to improve communication and patient/family engagement through standardisation of boards and ensuring meaningful information was displayed.



"We want to make sure that the right information goes to the right person in a timely manner," said Joy Dahl, Patient Flow Coordinator for Diagnostic, Emergency and Medicine in Gold Coast Hospital and Health Service.

Staff were consulted on the information that was required to improve patient handover and care before several trials were conducted in different wards at both Gold Coast University Hospital (GCUH) and Robina.

"These boards have been designed to not only work for the staff here at the hospital, but for the patient as well," said Joy. "This is their information too."

Feedback from staff has indicated these new and improved boards have assisted in improving patient-centred care through involvement of the patient, family and multidisciplinary teams and has improved bedside handover and positive feedback from patients and family has increased. Read more at: [www.healthyc.com.au/Patient-Care-Boards](http://www.healthyc.com.au/Patient-Care-Boards)

## Updates to referral templates

Referral templates on [www.healthyc.com.au/referrals](http://www.healthyc.com.au/referrals) have been updated, and changes are continually being made based on feedback from GPs. As a result of recent feedback, the amount of templates has been reduced and each template requires less information with reason for referral at the front as requested by Gold Coast Health specialists.

If you have feedback about the referral templates please email [GCGPLU@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:GCGPLU@health.qld.gov.au) or phone 07 5687 0346.

## Women and Children's Health Symposium

**Saturday 3 March, 8.50am - 4pm, Southport**

GPs, midwives and nurses are invited to attend the 7th Annual Women and Children's Health Symposium. See **page 7** for further details or visit: [www.healthyc.com.au](http://www.healthyc.com.au)

# Mental Health / Alcohol & Other Drugs

## Support groups helping local residents with their mental health

Gold Coast residents can improve their mental health by attending health and wellbeing groups located across the Coast, designed to support individuals with the wellness tools for balanced social, emotional mental wellbeing.

Local high school teacher Leah Fineran, who participated in one of the programs at the end of 2017, says the program helped change her life for the better. "For those hesitating about participating in one of these groups, I encourage you to take a chance," she said. "I guarantee you will walk away with at least one valuable skill that will change your life."

There is no charge for attending these small groups which are supported by the Gold Coast Primary Health Network, to help participants explore techniques for stress management, mindfulness, motivation and positive relationships and the importance of social connection.

The programs are run by professionals in a safe and supportive environment and are for residents who are experiencing mild depression and/or anxiety. The current wellbeing groups are aimed at the Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) community, people who identify as LGBTIQAP+, and people with substance use needs. A referral is not needed. For more information visit: [www.healthygc.com.au/GCHealthWellbeing](http://www.healthygc.com.au/GCHealthWellbeing)

# National Disability Insurance Scheme

## Are you prepared for the NDIS?

The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) is the new way of providing support for people with a disability, their families and carers in Australia. These education sessions are suitable for all primary healthcare professionals who are unfamiliar with the NDIS and would like to prepare for the July 2018 roll out.

Topics covered include access and eligibility for participants, how participants are funded under the NDIS and support for GPs and allied health professionals during this process.

Workshops will be held on **12 February and 13 March** and you can register here: [www.healthygc.com.au/NDIS-info-session](http://www.healthygc.com.au/NDIS-info-session)



# GCPHN News/In Brief

## Back on the Gold Coast

Dr Marcelo Nascimento has returned to the Gold Coast and will be working at Gold Coast University Hospital and Pindara Specialist Suites. Dr Nascimento is a gynaecologic oncologist and laparoscopic gynaecologic surgeon. He can be contacted via phone on 07 5564 5110 or via fax on 07 5564 5173.

## Webtest for sexually transmitted infections

The 13 HEALTH webtest provides online test request options for young people at risk of sexually transmissible infections (STIs) when they are unlikely or unable to attend a health service.

Support and follow-up is managed by 13 HEALTH, a 24/7 health assessment and information service for Queenslanders using telephone and online delivery models. More information:

[www.health.qld.gov.au/13health/webtest](http://www.health.qld.gov.au/13health/webtest)

## New resources now available on HealthyGC website

In collaboration with our General Practice Liaison Unit and Gold Coast Health, neurosurgery resources are now available on [www.healthygc.com.au/Resources/Clinical-Specialities/Neurosurgery.aspx](http://www.healthygc.com.au/Resources/Clinical-Specialities/Neurosurgery.aspx). These resources add to our suite of information under the Clinical Specialities menu which includes information on Gold Coast Health, GP-only waitlists, gynaecology and obstetrics, maxillofacial, neurosurgery, ophthalmology, oral health, paediatrics and includes specific information for GPs referring to neurosurgery specialists on the Gold Coast.

# Palliative Care

## Pocketbook of Palliative Medicine

GPs and specialists are encouraged to download an app which has been specially adapted by the Gold Coast Specialist Palliative Care team. The Pocketbook of Palliative Medicine app contains dot-point suggestions of symptom relief for patients, including details about useful medications, opioids and treating pain, using continuous subcutaneous infusions, information on prognostication and contact details of the Gold Coast Specialist Palliative care team. At the end of 2017, there had been a total of approximately 7000 installations of the app worldwide, with 50% of total iPhone downloads and 35% of total Android installations being from Australia users. Find out more:

[www.healthygc.com.au/Palliative-Care-Pocketbook](http://www.healthygc.com.au/Palliative-Care-Pocketbook)

## Advance Care Planning resources

The Advance Care Planning resources on the HealthyGC website are available to assist health professionals with accessing services and current evidence-based information or best practice guidelines to support patients in Advanced Care Planning.

Available at: [www.healthygc.com.au/Resources/ACP](http://www.healthygc.com.au/Resources/ACP)

## Advance Care Planning Symposium

**Friday 23 February, 8am-2pm, Southport**

Gold Coast Health is hosting a clinical symposium aimed at all clinicians who deal with or have an interest in this very important topic. Advance Care Planning supports patients and the wider community in ensuring that care provided at end of life is in accordance with the patient's health care goals and accurately reflects their values and beliefs.

Video conferencing will be available for those unable attend. Find out more/register:

[www.healthygc.com.au/Events/3149.aspx](http://www.healthygc.com.au/Events/3149.aspx)

# Practice News

## Results of the Commonwealth Games Survey

Late last year, the GCPHN distributed a survey to all Gold Coast general practices with the objective of developing an understanding of how opening hours will be affected during this time. This information was then provided to the Gold Coast Hospital and Health Service for planning purposes. Thank you to those who responded to this survey. Of the 32% of practices who responded, 98% percent of these are not planning to change their business hours during the games period.

Although most practices will continue to operate as usual, it is important that all practices prepare for this period by keeping up to date with all information provided by the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games Corporation at [getsetforthegames.com](http://getsetforthegames.com). Please view the final road closure information here: [www.getsetforthegames.com/road-impacts](http://www.getsetforthegames.com/road-impacts)

## My health for life: updated eligibility criteria and referral templates

Referring patients to the free My health for life (MH4L) program has now become so much easier with referral templates available for most medical software. The new templates now include updated eligibility criteria, being;

- AusDrisk Score is now lowered to 12 (previously 15)
- Patients diagnosed with Pre Diabetes are now eligible (aged 18 and over)

For full eligibility criteria visit: [www.myhealthforlife.com.au](http://www.myhealthforlife.com.au)

MH4L is a behaviour change program designed for people at high risk of developing a chronic disease, and shows participants that making small lifestyle changes can have major health benefits. You can download the referral templates by visiting: [www.healthyc.com.au/non-GC-referrals](http://www.healthyc.com.au/non-GC-referrals). All MH4L templates are situated under the 'prevention' drop-downs for each software.

There is a current radio campaign advertising MH4L. Please note that your practice may experience higher interest in this program from presenting patients.

# Digital Health

## My Health Record Expansion Plan

If your practice requires assistance with training or support to gain a better understanding of the My Health Record system, please find these useful links below:

### GP eLearning Modules - Updated

The My Health Record in General Practice online training modules have been updated. These five modules are available via the Agency training website: <https://training.digitalhealth.gov.au/HealthyGC> - [www.healthyc.com.au/digitalhealth](http://www.healthyc.com.au/digitalhealth)

### My Health Record -

[www.myhealthrecord.gov.au/internet/mhr/publishing.nsf/Content/healthcare-providers](http://www.myhealthrecord.gov.au/internet/mhr/publishing.nsf/Content/healthcare-providers)

### On Demand Training -

[www.digitalhealth.gov.au/using-the-my-health-record-system/digital-health-training-resources/on-demand](http://www.digitalhealth.gov.au/using-the-my-health-record-system/digital-health-training-resources/on-demand)

The username is 'OnDemandTrainingUser' and should be completed for you, however you will be required to enter a password to access the session. The password is 'TrainMe' (please note this password is case sensitive).

We can also offer face to face information/training sessions for small or large practice groups of Healthcare providers and practice Staff, just email you requests to:

[sharonp@gcphn.com.au](mailto:sharonp@gcphn.com.au) or [yvonneh@gcphn.com.au](mailto:yvonneh@gcphn.com.au)

## Turning Pain into Gain

### New opioid app available



**FPM**  
FACULTY OF PAIN MEDICINE  
ANZCA

Faculty of Pain Medicine (FPM) have developed a smart phone application designed to calculate dose equivalence of opioid analgesic medications. It is completely free of charge in both iPhone and Android versions. GPs can download it from the App Store or get it on Google Play by searching for ANZCA Opioid Calculator. To find out more, or if you have difficulty downloading the app, please contact: [opioidcalculator.fpm@anzca.edu.au](mailto:opioidcalculator.fpm@anzca.edu.au).

# Practice Tips

## Cleaning your data

Some practice information systems will create a clinical record for new patients once a new appointment is booked. If these new patients do not attend their scheduled appointment, these empty clinical records remain open and are included in your CAT4 data extracts. This can effect your practice percentages - for example, the percent of patients with allergy status recorded. Unfortunately your regular bulk inactivations will not remove these records because they have never had a visit.

Does your practice have a strategy to inactivate new patient no-shows (e.g. daily/weekly)? Contact your Practice Support Officer or email [practicesupport@gcphn.com.au](mailto:practicesupport@gcphn.com.au) for further information.

## Quality Improvement Practice Incentive Program (QI PIP)

The current PIP structure will be changing from 1st May 2018, with Asthma, Cervical Screening, Diabetes, GP Aged Care Access and Quality Prescribing incentives being discontinued and commencement of the Quality Improvement PIP. General Practices eligible to participate in the PIP can apply for the QI incentive at the beginning of May.

QI PIP details have yet to be released. As more information becomes available Gold Coast Primary Health Network will distribute this and post it on the General Practice Funding page under the Practice Incentives Program (PIP) dropdown: [www.healthyc.com.au/GeneralPracticeFunding](http://www.healthyc.com.au/GeneralPracticeFunding)

## UPDATE to HealthyGC Medicare Benefit Schedule (MBS) webpage

We have made some changes to our webpage with information on MBS. We have changed the name to "General Practice Funding" and it now covers information on MBS, Practice Incentive Payments (PIP) and Department of Veteran Affairs (DVA). This webpage will link you to the appropriate resources. You can view the webpage at: [www.healthyc.com.au/GeneralPracticeFunding](http://www.healthyc.com.au/GeneralPracticeFunding)

If you have any feedback on this page please contact your Practice Support Officer or email [practicesupport@gcphn.com.au](mailto:practicesupport@gcphn.com.au)

# Cancer Screening

## Pathologists swamped with ineligible HPV samples

Pathologists say they are being overwhelmed by ineligible cervical screening test requests for women under 25 and are private billing the HPV tests. Women under 25 have been ineligible to claim Medicare rebates for HPV tests since the 1 December renewal of the National Cervical Screening Program lifted the start age from 18 to 25. To find out more visit:

[www.healthyc.com.au/HPV-samples](http://www.healthyc.com.au/HPV-samples)

## New National Bowel Cancer Screening Program test kit

A new immunochemical faecal occult blood test (iFOBT) kit, and associated pathology services has been introduced into the National Bowel Cancer Screening Program (the Program) from 2 January 2018. The Program is a population-based screening program that aims to help detect bowel cancer early and reduce the number of Australians who die each year from the disease. For more information visit: [www.healthyc.com.au/new-test-kit](http://www.healthyc.com.au/new-test-kit)

## Direct Access Colonoscopy Service

It is timely to remind health professionals about the Direct Access Colonoscopy Service, which enables GPs to directly refer selected patients for a colonoscopy. Referral templates for the new Gold Coast Health Direct Access Colonoscopy service are now available under the Gastroenterology tab at:

[www.healthyc.com.au/referrals](http://www.healthyc.com.au/referrals)

## Optimal Cancer Care Pathways

In a significant development in cancer care in Australia, national Optimal Cancer Care Pathways have been developed to promote consistent, quality cancer care. They aim to improve patient outcomes by ensuring that all people diagnosed with cancer receive the best care regardless of where they live or receive cancer treatment. More details can be found at:

[www.cancer.org.au/health-professionals/optimal-cancer-care-pathways.html](http://www.cancer.org.au/health-professionals/optimal-cancer-care-pathways.html)

## The co-morbidities of breast cancer survivors

A new study investigating the co-morbidities of breast cancer survivors published in the Medical Journal of Australia (MJA) found certain chronic diseases are more likely to develop in breast cancer survivors than in other women. The study, which used PBS medication records as a proxy for disease diagnosis, looked at over 4200 Australian women diagnosed with hormone-dependent cancer. Find out more at:

[www.healthyc.com.au/co-morbidities-breast-cancer](http://www.healthyc.com.au/co-morbidities-breast-cancer)

## Cancer Australia launches interactive website

Cancer Australia has launched Australia's first interactive website of national data across the continuum of cancer control – the National Cancer Control Indicators (NCCI). It represents a significant advance in how population-based cancer data in Australia is consolidated and presented. Find out more at:

[www.ncci.canceraustralia.gov.au/](http://www.ncci.canceraustralia.gov.au/)

# Immunisation

## Meningococcal ACWY vaccine funding 15-19 year olds extended

There are continuing to be cases of meningococcal W and Y disease in Queensland. The Queensland Department of Health is currently providing the meningococcal ACWY vaccine free-of-charge through GPs and other community immunisation providers to anyone aged 15 to 19 years. Providers should offer the vaccine opportunistically to all 15 to 19 year olds, actively promote the program to all 15 and 19 year olds and provide catch-up for those year 10 and 11 students who may have missed the vaccine. Visit: [www.healthyc.com.au/ACWY-vaccine](http://www.healthyc.com.au/ACWY-vaccine) for further details or contact the Gold Coast Public Health Unit on 1800 940 750 for further information.

It was recently announced that a quad-strain vaccine will be added to the National Immunisation Program (NIP). The new vaccine (Nimenrix) covers against A, C, W and Y strains (MenACWY) and will be added to the NIP ahead of the next peak meningococcal season which, based on previous years, is expected to be in the second half of the year. More information will be provided as details become available.

## Notifiable conditions reports

The notifiable conditions reports are available on the Queensland Health website. Search for 'Notifiable conditions reports' in the search bar when you visit: [www.health.qld.gov.au/](http://www.health.qld.gov.au/)

## Q fever: early diagnosis and vaccination online

The Q fever: early diagnosis and vaccination online learning module was developed by the Communicable Diseases Branch, Health Protection New South Wales (NSW) in collaboration with experts in clinical infectious diseases, vaccinology, veterinary microbiology, public health and rural general practice. GPs in regional, rural and remote areas are encouraged to complete this module which takes approximately two hours to complete. The module has been accredited with Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine (ACRRM) for two core continuing professional development points. More information: [www.acrrm.org.au](http://www.acrrm.org.au)

## Final places available for the Gold Coast Immunisation Forum

This forum is for Gold Coast-based general practice clinical staff and will be held on Wednesday 21 February, 6pm-8.30pm at Southport Sharks. Run in partnership with General Practice Gold Coast (GPGC), this event will include practical presentations. More: [www.healthyc.com.au/GCImmunisationForum](http://www.healthyc.com.au/GCImmunisationForum)

## Immunisation B2B and Catch-up workshops

Immunisation Back to Basics and Catch-up workshops for GPs and practice nurses will be provided by the Gold Coast Public Health Unit Immunisation Team on various dates throughout 2018. The full-day sessions are limited to 20 people and you can register now by visiting: [www.goldcoast.health.qld.gov.au](http://www.goldcoast.health.qld.gov.au)



## Place a free job notification

To place your listing on the HealthyGC website. Go to [www.healthycg.com.au/professionaljobs](http://www.healthycg.com.au/professionaljobs) (Listing also included in Generally Speaking)

Alternatively email [communications@gcphn.com.au](mailto:communications@gcphn.com.au)  
Word Count: 75 words    Layout: Dot points

### GP wanted in Pimpama/Ormeau

VR GP wanted for very busy practice. Fully accredited, fully computerised, family-orientated practice.

**Contact: Ann Koessler on 07 5549 3100 or email: [manager@amtanmedical.com.au](mailto:manager@amtanmedical.com.au)**

### RN wanted at Pimpama Medical Centre

The position will be initially casual, working 3+ days per week, with an opportunity, after proven excellent performance, to become permanent. We offer generous remuneration to match the skills demonstrated.

**Contact: Ann Koessler on 07 5549 3100 or email: [manager@amtanmedical.com.au](mailto:manager@amtanmedical.com.au)**

### Arundel practice seeking GP

188 Medical is seeking a GP to join their team in their new state of the art building, with two consulting rooms, three bed treatment rooms, onsite pathology and mental health.

**Contact: Sara on 07 5561 9188 or email: [info@188medical.com](mailto:info@188medical.com)**

### Murwillumbah practice seeking VR GP

Busy GP practice, located in far North Coast of NSW seeking VR GP registrar for a permanent part-time position. We are an accredited, fully computerised, family-orientated practice with full time practice nursing coverage.

**Contact: practice manager on 02 6672 1200 or email: [nhunt@mainstmed.com.au](mailto:nhunt@mainstmed.com.au)**

### GP wanted in Tweed area

Tweed Health for Everyone is seeking a GP to join our boutique medical centre located in Terranora. Our practice has four consulting rooms, a two-bed treatment room and on-site pathology, as well as full nursing services available. We also run a wound clinic from our Tweed Heads South location and a full Skin Cancer Clinic.

**Contact: Tara Cahill on 07 5589 7555 or email: [tara.cahill@thesc.com.au](mailto:tara.cahill@thesc.com.au)**

### Unrestricted VR GP wanted in Burleigh

Classic Way Family Practice is an accredited and established practice on the southern end of the Gold Coast and is seeking an unrestricted VR GP for part-time or full-time position. Currently we have an active patient base of 9,000 with four full time practitioners and two RNs. The surgery is five minutes from Bond University, Burleigh Beach, Robina Town Centre and the M1. Flexible hours to suit and generous remuneration.

**Contact: Deborah on 07 5568 0600 or via email: [classicway@bigpond.com](mailto:classicway@bigpond.com)**

### Casual medical receptionist for Surfers Paradise area

Seeking an experienced medical receptionist for a very busy GP practice. Previous experience using Pracsoft and Medical Director is essential, minimum two years experience and must be available to work between 7am-11pm seven days a week.

**Contact: Margaret at Surfers Paradise Day Night Medical Centre on 07 5592 2299 or email: [margaret@surfersdn.com.au](mailto:margaret@surfersdn.com.au)**



## Upcoming Events

### GP Trainer Workshop

“Speed dating” between GP supervisors and university GP educators

**Focusing on making GP teaching and supervising more effective and easier to do**

This training is for GPs who are taking, or are interested in taking, medical students or registrars. The workshop will include small group interactions and will feature guest speakers Dr Jane Smith (Bond University), Dr Liz Fitzmaurice (Griffith University) and Dr John de Vries (General Practice Training Queensland). Medical Student GP Trainers are strongly encouraged to attend.

This event will be held on **Thursday 22 February, 6.30pm - 9pm in Robina**. Find out more/register:

[www.healthycg.com.au/GP-Trainer-Workshop](http://www.healthycg.com.au/GP-Trainer-Workshop)

### The 7th Annual Women and Children’s Health Symposium

**Saturday 3 March, 8.50am - 4pm, Southport**

GPs, midwives and nurses working in primary care settings are once again invited to attend the 7th Annual Women and Children's Health Symposium (formally known as the Women's Health in Partnership event). The symposium will provide the latest evidence presented by a wide range of experts from the specialties of obstetrics, gynaecology, public health and paediatric medicine and surgery. There will also be practical tips to better manage abnormal uterine bleeding, endometriosis, infant feeding problems and children presenting with possible development disorders. Find out more/register:

[www.healthycg.com.au/WomenChildrenSymposium](http://www.healthycg.com.au/WomenChildrenSymposium)

### 2018 Karulbo Health Expo

**Saturday 17 February, Broadbeach**

This free event will focus on the Gold Coast Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community and will include fun activities for the community as well as an opportunity to learn more about a range of support services. For more information contact Kalwun Health Service on 07 5526 1112.

# What's on

Gold Coast Primary Health Network does not endorse any events listed below that are provided by external agencies. Details are provided for information to practices and patients. Full details available at [www.healthygc.com.au/events](http://www.healthygc.com.au/events)

[www.healthygc.com.au/events](http://www.healthygc.com.au/events)



## February

14 February 2018

• **GCPHN Professional Event**

Course in Aural (Ear) Health  
GCPHN, Robina, 8.45am-4.30pm

- For GPs: Understanding Echocardiography
- Waijung Jarjum - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander antenatal program
- Cross Cultural Awareness Session
- QPHN: New Directions in Mental Health

15 February 2018

• **GCPHN Professional Event**

Nurse Preceptor Training Workshop  
GCPHN, Robina, 6pm-8.30pm

- Psycho-social considerations for palliative care
- Dementia Australia: Family Carers Course
- Makarrata Conversational Workshop

16 February 2018

- Fundamentals of Wound Management

17 February 2018

- Karulbo Expo
- Australian Association of Musculoskeletal Medicine: assessment and management of upper limb pain

19 February 2018

• **GCPHN Professional Event**

Screening for Problem Gambling  
GCPHN, Robina, 10am-11.30am

- DESMOND Robina
- Positive Psychology and Wellbeing Program

20 February 2018

- Back to Basics Immunisation Workshop
- Be. Well. Program
- Allergy and Eczema Support: ask the dermatologist
- ASHM: Viral hepatitis webinar for health staff working in correctional centres

21 February 2018

- Waijung Jarjum - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander antenatal program
- Gold Coast Immunisation Forum

22 February 2018

• **GCPHN Professional Event**

GP Trainer Workshop  
GCPHN, Robina, 6.30pm - 9.30pm

- Dementia Australia: living with memory loss

23 February 2018

- Advance Care Planning Symposium

24 February 2018

- Hepatitis C new treatments course for primary care providers

25 February 2018

- Wellness in the Wilderness

26 February 2018

- Improving outcomes: Queensland mothers and babies
- Ausmed Education: Beating burnout in nursing conference

28 February 2018

- Waijung Jarjum - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander antenatal program

## March

2 March 2018

- ASHM Training: Hepatitis B Nursing
- The Pharmacy Guild of Australia: National Vaccination Course for Pharmacists

3 March 2018

• **GCPHN Professional Event**

Women and Children's Health Symposium  
GCUH, Southport, 8.50am-4pm

7 March 2018

• **GCPHN Professional Event**

My Health Record for Allied Health  
Sharks Events Centre, 6.30pm-8.30pm

8 March 2018

• **GCPHN Professional Event**

My Health Record for Chempro Pharmacy  
GCPHN, Robina, 6.30pm-8.30pm



Australian Government

**phn**  
GOLD COAST

An Australian Government Initiative

Supporting GPs and General Practice

**GPGC**

Healthy General Practice Healthy Gold Coast

Level 1, 14 Edgewater Court, Robina Qld 4226 | PO Box 3576 Robina Town Centre Qld 4230  
P: 07 5635 2455 | F: 07 5635 2466 | E: [info@gcphn.com.au](mailto:info@gcphn.com.au) | [www.healthygc.com.au](http://www.healthygc.com.au)

*Gold Coast Primary Health Network would like to acknowledge the traditional custodians of the Gold Coast and surrounding areas, the Yugambah, Yuggera and Bundjalung peoples.*

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