



PRIMARY HEALTH NEWS

Issue Seven - 6 September 2016



New Approach to Mental Health and Drug & Alcohol Services in Western NSW

As part of the Western NSW PHN's commissioning of mental health and drug & alcohol services, the Western NSW Mental Health and Drug & Alcohol Stepped Care Integration Planning Executive Group (SCIPEG) has recently been established. SCIPEG, jointly chaired by the WNSW PHN and Local Health Districts (Western and Far West), brings stakeholders together and ensures resources are used efficiently, with the aim of identifying

service gaps and designing improved mental health services that match the needs of the community.

The third meeting of SCIPEG was held in Dubbo on 31 August - plans to develop a combined regional strategy for Stepped Care continued, as well as a review of the availability of self-help services for mental health.

SCIPEG allows all members to represent the full voice of their constituency in the design of the Stepped Care Model, without establishing a potential conflict of interest in a future commissioning process.

[Find out more >>](#)

RUOK?TM

A conversation could change a life.

**WORLD
SUICIDE
PREVENTION
DAY** ●●●

**Stay connected, have a conversation and change someone's life.
R U OK? Day on 8 September and World Suicide Prevention Day on 10 September.
Let's bring suicide prevention into focus.**

Australian Immunisation Handbook Updates

The Australian Immunisation Handbook 10th Edition 2016 Update is now available online at

www.immunise.health.gov.au.

The 2016 update of the Handbook contains amendments to a number of chapters including changes to clinical recommendations, as well as clarifications and the inclusion of new factual information.



An Australian, State and Territory Governments initiative

A detailed description of all the amendments is available on the [Immunise Australia website](#) and available to [download here](#).

Due to the number of changes made in the 2016 update, it is important to read all updated chapters in their entirety.

Printable PDF versions of each individual chapter of the Handbook will soon be available on the Immunise Australia website to download. These PDF chapters will replace the printable PDF version of the entire Handbook. This is due to the nature of the annual update process implemented to ensure that advice on the use of vaccines in Australia is as up-to-date as possible.

[Find out more >>](#)

POSITIONS VACANT - Western NSW Primary Health Network is Recruiting

Western NSW Primary Health Network currently has the following positions available:

Mental Health and Drug & Alcohol Senior Project Officer (Dubbo, Bathurst or Orange)

Fixed term contract until 30 June 2017

Mental Health and Drug & Alcohol Manager (Dubbo, Bathurst or Orange)

Fixed term contract until 30 June 2018

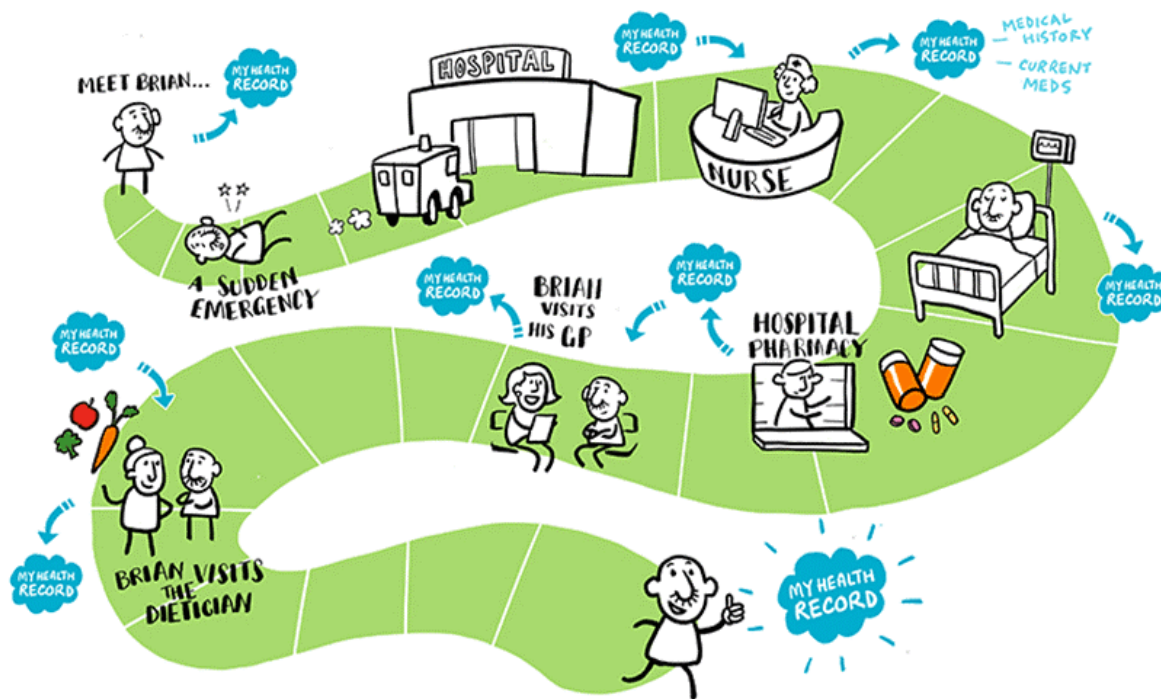
Aboriginal Health Manager (Dubbo)

Fixed term contract until 30 June 2018

For an outline of responsibilities, selection criteria and information on how to apply for these roles, please refer to the [Employment](#) section of the "About Us" page of the [WNSW PHN website](#).

Applications for all three positions close at midnight, 11 September 2016.

[Find out more >>](#)



My Health Record - A Patient Journey

A patient's My Health Record can provide important information for healthcare providers in every step of an individual's health journey. A My Health Record gives both patients and health professionals immediate access to a patient's necessary health information on-line – this helps to improve co-ordinated care outcomes, reduce duplication and provide vital information in emergency situations.

The benefits of My Health Record are illustrated in "A Patient's Journey". For Brian, beyond the emergency department, supplementary information in the discharge summary was visible in his My Health Record – helping inform other healthcare providers involved in his care.

Brian is 62 years old and was diagnosed with Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus almost two years ago – since then his condition has been managed through diet management and lifestyle changes...

[Click here for the interactive story of Brian's My Health Record journey >>](#)



Health

Working Together to Support Vulnerable Families

The Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998 has been amended to allow certain private health professionals to share information relating to the safety, welfare and wellbeing of children and young people. This

legislative change reflects the important role private health professionals play in identifying and responding to vulnerable families.

As a result of the amendment affecting section 27A of the Care Act, all registered medical practitioners and general practice nurses can now consult with and report to the NSW Health Child Wellbeing Unit if they have concerns regarding the safety, welfare or wellbeing of a child, young person or unborn child. In doing so, they can meet their mandatory reporting obligations under the Care Act.

The regulatory changes are indicative of the important role health practitioners play in identifying

and responding to child protection concerns, and provide a mechanism for private health professionals to coordinate services and better meet the needs of vulnerable families.

[Find out more >>](#)

Tackling Indigenous Smoking Portal

The first edition of the Australian Indigenous Alcohol and Other Drugs Knowledge Centre's **Tackling Indigenous Smoking (TIS)** portal is now available at www.tacklingsmoking.org.au.



The portal has been developed by the National Best Practice Unit for Tackling Indigenous Smoking (NBPU TIS) and includes the TIS Resource and Information Centre (TISRIC). The portal is located on the Australian Indigenous HealthInfoNet.

The portal contains a comprehensive collection of videos and programs, workforce information such as conferences, jobs, courses, and other events and training. There is also a Members-only Yarning Place, which aims to foster a community of practice.

While the portal has been designed specifically for TIS grant recipients, the main resources and social media sites (Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn) are free access and can be used by anyone interested in or working in the area of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander smoking reduction and cessation.

Both the portal and the TISRIC are 'living resources' that will be updated and improved as new evidence comes to light, new resources are identified or if feedback is received by the NBPU TIS.

[Find out more >>](#)

Community & Primary Health Care Nursing Week

Nurses where you need them

19-25 SEPTEMBER 2016



 Australian College of Nursing

Proudly sponsored by

 MUSHROOMS

 AUSTRALIAN COMMISSION ON SAFETY AND QUALITY IN HEALTH CARE

Events and Training

Upcoming events organised or supported by WNSW PHN include:

- [LGBTI Inclusion Workshop](#) - 8 September, Broken Hill
- [Perineal Injury Repair Course & Workshop](#) - 10 September, Dubbo
- [Targeting Anxiety in Youth](#) - 13 September, Dubbo
- [Cardiology Masterclass](#) - 14 September, Orange
- [Otitis Media & Aural Health Care Program](#) - 15 September, Walgett
- [Rheumatology Education Evening](#) - 15 September, Dubbo
- [Emergency Masterclass Simulated Education](#) - 16/17 September, Lightning Ridge
- [Diabetes Update Day](#) - 17 September, Sydney
- [HIV s100 Prescriber Course](#) - 17 September, Sydney
- [Emergency Masterclass Simulated Education](#) - 14/15 October, Coonabarabran
- [Otitis Media & Aural Health Care Program](#) - 22 October, Bathurst
- [Foot Health Assessment Program](#) - 26 October, Walgett
- [Emergency Masterclass Simulated Education](#) - 28/29 October, Bourke
- [Medico Masterclass: Cervical Spine Problems](#) - 3 November, Mudgee
- [ACRRM Rural Emergency Skills Training](#) - 5 November, Dubbo

Visit our [website](#) for a full list of events in your area

Contact Western NSW PHN

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While the Australian Government helped fund this document, it has not reviewed the content and is not responsible for any injury, loss or damage however arising from the use of or reliance on the information provide herein.



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