

Wishing you a happy holiday season and safe new year!

From all of us at Western NSW Primary Health Network



An Australian Government Initiative

General Practice Resources

December 2019

Welcome to the General Practice Resources produced once a month to keep you and your practice up-to-date with the latest information from government, associations in the Primary Health Space. The following includes information on:

- Practice incentive Program
- Digital Health
- Webinars
- Immunisations

On behalf of the entire Practice Support Team we want to wish you a happy holiday season and safe new year. Western NSW PHN will be closed between Christmas and New Year.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
23 Dec	24 Dec	25 Dec	26 Dec	27 Dec
Open	Closes at 3pm	Public Holiday	Public Holiday	Closed
30 Dec	31 Dec	1 Jan	2 Jan	3 Jan
Closed	Closed	Public Holiday	Open	Open

What's On This Month

01 Dec – 31 Dec	Decembeard	https://www.decembeard.org.au/
01 Dec	World AIDS Day	https://www.worldaidsday.org/
03 Dec	International Day of Persons with Disabilities	https://www.idpwd.com.au/
05 Dec	International Volunteer Day	https://www.volunteeringaustralia.org/
25 Dec	Christmas Day	
26 Dec	Boxing Day	

General Information

PNIP

Please click on link <https://www1.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/work-pr-wip-workforce-incentive-program> to view changes to the PNIP early next year.

Workforce Incentive Program

The Workforce Incentive Program (WIP) provides targeted financial incentives to encourage doctors to deliver services in rural and remote areas. The WIP also provides financial incentives to support general practices to engage the services of nurses, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practitioners and Health Workers, and eligible allied health professionals.

From early 2020, general practices and doctors participating in the Practice Nurse Incentive Program (PNIP) and the General Practice Rural Incentives Program (GPRIP) will automatically transition to the WIP. For further information, please click on link: <https://www1.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/work-pr-wip-workforce-incentive-program>

Rural Procedural Grant Program

The Black Dog Institute's [Advanced Training in Suicide Prevention](#) program is now eligible for one day of funding under the [Rural Procedural Grants Program](#). This means is that any GP registered with the Rural Procedural Grants Program wishing to attend Advanced Training in Suicide Prevention are able to do so anywhere in Australia and access up to \$2,000 which covers the cost of the workshop, travel and accommodation. This is available to GP members of both the RACGP and ACRRM. More information about RACGP grants can be found [here](#).

Black Dog Institute Education Course

Black Dog has a whole range of education for GP's, psychologists, counsellors, social workers and mental Health works looking to expand their knowledge and skills in the area of mental health.

https://blackdoginstitute.secure.force.com/forms/bdi_EducationCourseLanding

Dementia Training Australia

Dementia Training Australia is funded by the Federal Government to provide dementia education and training across Australia. If you are interested in any Dementia training, please click on link <https://www.dta.com.au/>

Resources

- [1. My Health Record Advance Care Planning information now live in NSW Health facilities](#)
- [2. My Health Record use in Emergency Departments.](#)
- [3. Flyer – After Hours GP Helpline.](#)
- [4. Resource booklet - Supporting patients experiencing family violence](#)
- [5. National Crisis Support and Advice Contact List](#)
- [6. Mental Health Flyer - How are you going](#)
- [7. Factsheet - HealtheNet and My Health Record](#)
- [8. Flyer - Advance Care Planning information in My Health Record](#)
- [9. Flyer – Interprofessional Session – Supporting Asthma Education in Rural and Remote areas](#)
- [10. Flyer - PIP QI Payment update November 2019](#)

PRACTICE INCENTIVE PROGRAM - QUALITY IMPROVEMENT (PIP QI)

PIP QI Resources

The Quality Improvement Practice Incentive Payment is now in its second quarter and you should be receiving your first quarter payment soon. The practice Support and improvement Team look forward to visiting you all at your practice to continue to support you in general practice and support you through the process of Quality Improvement. Support we can offer you will include;

- Regular on-site Practice Support Visits
- Access to QI resources on our website and in this monthly update
- PRODA support to ensure your team in registered, delegate to GP and using PRODA
- Assistance with examples of Quality Improvement we can support you to introduce at your practice based on your needs, location and demographics.
- Pen CS products support and training
- Synergia training and support

Remember with Christmas and New Year looming to secure a time with your local Practice Support and Improvement Officer.

PIP QI resources: <https://www.wnswphn.org.au/support/support-for-health-professionals/quality-health-information-program>

PIP QI Incentive guidance: https://www1.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/PIP-QI_Incentive_guidance

DIGITAL HEALTH

NEW MBS items for Telehealth Video Consultation

Starting from 1st November 2019, twelve new MBS items for telehealth video consultations with patients living in rural and remote areas will become available.

The Commonwealth Dept of Health have published a [Factsheet](#), [Quick Reference Guide](#), and [Frequently Asked Questions](#) for GP Telehealth Items in MMM 6 and 7

Safety & Quality - My Health Record

Please click on link <https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/our-work/e-health-safety/my-health-record-guide/resources> to view extra resources for e-health-safety.

Windows 7 End of Support

If you're still using Windows 7, then it's time to plan an upgrade! Support for the Windows 7 operating system is ending on **14 January 2020**. After this, Microsoft will no longer provide security updates or support for computers or devices running Windows 7. Find out what your options are [here](#).

If your hardware or software is too old it may not auto-update and leave your business susceptible to technical, software and security issues. The Australian Cyber Security Centre recommends upgrading your device or software.

If you continue to use Windows 7 after support has ended, your computers and devices will continue to start and run, but Microsoft will no longer provide you with updates for security, software or any technical support.

If you are not able to upgrade before 14 January 2020, some organisations may be able to purchase an 'Extended Security Updates (ESU)' package. This will allow you to continue receiving security updates (for a limited period). Learn more [here](#).

New resources for practice managers

Do you work in healthcare practice management? The Australian Association of Practice Management (AAPM) and the Australian Digital Health Agency have partnered to develop new resources to help practice managers and owners register and connect their practice to My Health Record.

My Health Record Handbook for Practice Managers

The handbook takes practice managers and owners through the process of registering their practice to access the My Health Record System, along with advice about compliance, consent and privacy.

[Download: My Health Record Handbook for Practice Managers.](#)

My Health Record Practice Manager Registration Guide

This step-by-step guide takes practice managers and owners through registering their organisation, to using My Health Record in their practice.

[Download: My Health Record Practice Manager Registration Guide.](#)

WEBINARS

Name	Date	About	Link	Cost
Disaster Preparedness	Monday 2 nd December, 6:00 pm – 7:00pm	This Webinar will be facilitated by Centium and will discuss how to prepare for, respond to and recover from the impacts of emergencies and pandemics.	Register Here	
How to maximise the MBS for Nurse Clinics in General Practice	Tuesday 3 rd December, 12:30pm – 1:30pm	Understanding how to fund a nurse clinic in general practice can be a challenge. This webinar will enable you to increase your knowledge and confidence on how to maximise the MBS for your nurse clinic.	Register Here	To register for this free webinar (which is open to all Practice Nurses - not only APNA members)
AGPAL – Bushfire Recovery	Wednesday 4 th December 12:30 – 2:00pm	To support recovery efforts in a small way, the AGPAL team is delivering a complimentary webinar titled 'Bushfire recovery – tools and techniques to assist during the primary care disaster recovery effort'. It will have a general practice focus, however, learnings can also be gained to support PHNs staff as well as teams across health and community services organisations.	Join Webinar	
NCIRS Seminar Series – Working together to improve Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Immunisations	Tuesday 10 December, 1:00pm – 2:00pm	Proud Barkindji woman Katrina Clark, NCIRS National Indigenous Immunisation Coordinator, and Patrick Cashman, Hunter New England Health Immunisation Coordinator, will present at this webinar.	Join Webinar	

Basic Asthma Management Update	Thursday 12 December 2019, 1:00pm -2:00pm	The Interprofessional Sessions will be presenting a three-part series focusing Asthma related conditions. The sessions will explore practical strategies and evidence-based approaches to care and is relevant to a wide range of health professionals with a focus on Managing Asthma.	Register Here	
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IMMUNISATIONS

National Cancer Screening Register to support National Bowel Cancer Screening Program (NBCSP)

The AMA provided the following update to members on its webpage

<https://ama.com.au/ausmed/national-cancer-screening-register-support-national-bowel-cancer-screening-program>

From November 18, the [National Cancer Screening Register](#) (the National Register) will begin supporting the [National Bowel Cancer Screening Program](#) (NBCSP).

The Australian Government's National Bowel Cancer Screening Program (NBCSP) 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.

From November 18, 2019, the current NBCSP Register operated by the Department of Human Services, will transition over to the National Register to create a single national record for participants of the NBCSP and the National Cervical Screening Program (NCSP).

The National Register will support the NBCSP by:

- Collecting and storing NBCSP bowel cancer screening data.
- Inviting and reminding eligible people to participate (through integration with the Medicare database).
- Distributing iFOBT kits to eligible participants (a free test kit that can be completed at home and mailed to the contracted pathology laboratory for analysis).
- Providing the State and Territory Participant Follow-Up Function (PFUF) access to the National Register to facilitate their support and follow up of positive iFOBT results.
- Providing information on participants to healthcare providers.
- Providing reporting on key program and operational outcomes for policy makers and key stakeholders to ensure appropriate safety, monitoring and evaluation of the Program.

Additional functionality will be implemented in stages from March 2020, including:

An online portal which will enable healthcare providers to access patient information and submit data electronically to the NBCSP and the

- Integration with primary care Practice Management Software systems.
- Integration with whole-of-government services (e.g. MyGov, My Health Record) which will enable greater self-service options for people to manage their participation in both Programs.

What you need to know:

Migration of NBCSP data will occur over November 15-17 and the National Register will commence operating the NBCSP Register from the morning of Monday, November 18, 2019.

National Register contact details:

From November 18, the National Register can be contacted for both NBCSP and NCSP-related purposes on the following:

National Register Contact Centre

1800 627 701 (operates Monday to Friday, between 8am and 6pm in all Australian State and Territory time zones)

Fax

Bowel Screening Fax: 1800 115 062

Cervical Screening Fax: 1800 627 702

Post

Bowel Screening Post: Reply Paid 90965, Sunshine VIC 3020

Cervical Screening Post: Reply Paid 90964, Sunshine VIC 3020

MBS Claiming for the National Cervical Screening Program

There have been a number of enquiries regarding billing for women who present for follow up of a prior Intermediate Risk cervical screening test result. Women who are due to have a 12-month follow-up test are sent communications by the NCSR nine months following the original screen date.

Please note that 12 months follow up HPV tests are supported by the Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS) by claiming MBS item number 73072.

Unlike item number 73070, which is intended for primary screening of asymptomatic women, MBS Item number 73072 does not have a time restrictor and can therefore be performed at any time after the date of the original cervical screening test and be eligible for an MBS rebate. Clinical experts have advised the NCSR that a minimum of nine months should separate the follow-up test from the initial screening test.

These two items and the relevant descriptors are provided and highlighted in the table below for your reference.

MBS Item	Descriptor	Fee and Benefit
73070	A test, including partial genotyping, for oncogenic human papillomavirus that may be associated with cervical pre-cancer or cancer: (a) performed on a liquid based cervical specimen; and (b) for an asymptomatic patient who is at least 24 years and 9 months of age For any particular patient, once only in a 57-month period	Fee: \$35.00 Benefit: 75% = \$26.25 85% = \$29.75
73072	A test, including partial genotyping, for oncogenic human papillomavirus, performed on a liquid based cervical specimen: (a) for the investigation of a patient in a specific population that appears to have a higher risk of cervical pre-cancer or cancer; or (b) for the follow-up management of a patient with a previously detected oncogenic human papillomavirus infection or cervical pre-cancer or cancer; or (c) for the investigation of a patient with symptoms suggestive of cervical cancer; or (d) for the follow-up management of a patient after treatment of high grade squamous intraepithelial lesions or adenocarcinoma in situ of the cervix; or (e) for the follow-up management of a patient with glandular abnormalities; or (f) for the follow-up management of a patient exposed to diethylstilboestrol in utero	Fee: \$35.00 Benefit: 75% = \$26.25 85% = \$29.75

The Cervical Screening Test Information for health professionals – online fact sheet:

<https://www.cancer.nsw.gov.au/getattachment/cervical-screening-nsw/information-and-resources-for-health-professionals/FAQ-for-clinicians.pdf?lang=en-AU>