



General Practice Resource Newsletter

April 2021

Welcome to the General Practice Resources, keeping you and your practice up to date with the latest information from government, associations in the Primary Health Space.

The following includes information on:

- [Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)
- [Digital Health Update](#)
- [General Information](#)
- [Webinars and Events](#)
- [Reminders](#)
- [Resources](#)

The Month Ahead:

1 Apr – 30 Apr	IBS Awareness Month	IFFGD
2 Apr	World Autism Day	Autism Awareness Australia
7 Apr	World Health Day	World Health Organisation
11 Apr	MS Walk & Fun Run	MS Walk
11 Apr	World Parkinson's Day	Parkinson's NSW
17 Apr	World Haemophilia Day	World Federation of Hemophilia
24 Apr – 30 Apr	World Immunisation Week	World Health Organisation
25 Apr	World Malaria Day	EndMalaria.org
28 Apr	World Guide Dog Day	Guide Dogs NSW
28 Apr	World Day for Safety & Health at Work	Safe Work Australia

NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

The WNSW PHN Website is updated daily with the latest information, including Information Lines, Self-Quarantine Guidelines, Patient Care and printable resources for GP's and ED's, as well as links to the Department of Health, NSW Health, RACGP, WHO and more.

<https://www.wnswphn.org.au/coronavirus>

<https://www.wnswphn.org.au/covid19vaccinations>

➤ Updated and new MBS Items for COVID-19

- [Download the MBS Quick Guide to COVID-19 Items here](#)
- [Download the MBS Quick Guide here](#)
- [Access the MBS COVID-19 Vaccine Suitability Assessment Service Fact Sheet here](#)

➤ Updated COVID-19 Vaccination Resources

The Commonwealth Department of Health and NSW Health are continually updating its range of COVID-19 Information resources, including information for providers and patients, site requirements, consent, and clinical posters.

Updated Resources:

- [Phase 1B COVID-19 Vaccine roll-out Information for GPs](#)
- [Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Vaccination Provider toolkit](#)
- [Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Vaccination Provider poster](#)
- [MBS COVID-19 Vaccine Suitability Assessment Service](#)
- [COVID-19 vaccination decision guide for frail older people](#)
- [Patient Leaflet: "After Your COVID-19 Vaccine \(AstraZeneca\)"](#)
- [Adult Vaccination Record for Adults](#)

[Access the Department of Health COVID-19 Information Resources here](#)

DIGITAL HEALTH UPDATE

In this month's Digital Health Update:

- The Importance of the Australian Immunisation Register (AIR)
- Uploading Shared Health Summary to My Health Record
- NASH PKI Certificate renewals
- Electronic Prescribing

[Download the Digital Health Update for April 2021 here](#)

GENERAL INFORMATION

➤ Request an Authority Using Online PBS Authorities in HPOS

Approved prescribers no longer need to call to request PBS authority approval for:

- most PBS items (but not some complex written Authority Required items)
- increased quantities or repeats for those items.

PBS authority approvals online can be requested through either:

- PBS Authorities on Health Professional Online Services (HPOS)
- upgraded clinical and prescribing software, when available.

PBS written authority documents can also be submitted using Form Upload in HPOS. You can use this function through HPOS Messages. Form upload lets you securely send messages with forms and supporting documents directly to us. This function confirms forms have been received and there's no postal delays.

[Learn more about form upload in HPOS](#)

[Access the Requesting an Authority using Online PBS Authorities in HPOS Information here](#)

➤ National Crisis Support and Advice Lines

WNSW PHN has collated an up-to-date quick guide of Crisis Support and Advice Lines that are available to residents in our region.

[Download the National Crisis Support and Advice Lines Quick Guide here](#)

➤ New and amended PBS listings

Services Australia has released new and amended PBS listings today together with a [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#) document relating to access and use of the Online PBS Authorities System.

This information relates to the administration of these listings by Services Australia. For further information on broader PBS changes, please visit [the PBS website](#).

➤ 2021 Influenza Vaccination Provider Toolkit Launched

The 2021 Influenza Vaccination Provider Toolkit has been released.

[Download the Influenza Vaccination Provider toolkit \(March 2021 Update\) here](#)

[Access the Seasonal influenza vaccination 2021 information here](#)

[Download the 2021 Seasonal Influenza Vaccination Information for GPs and ACCHOs here](#)

[Download the 2021 Information for Obstetricians, Gynaecologists and Maternity Services here](#)

➤ **ATAGI: Seasonal Influenza Vaccines in 2021**

The Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI) has released its 2021 Influenza Statement on the administration of seasonal influenza vaccines.

It includes information about:

- the influenza vaccines available for use in Australia in 2021, by age
- influenza virus strains included in the 2021 seasonal influenza vaccines
- timing of vaccination, including the timing of influenza and COVID-19 vaccines
- vaccination for pregnant women
- eligibility for influenza vaccines funded under the National Immunisation Program (NIP)
- medical conditions that are associated with an increased risk of influenza complications.

[Access the ATAGI Advice on Seasonal Influenza Vaccines in 2021 factsheet here](#)

➤ **Important reminder for Practices using authentication file number to access the Australian Immunisation Register (AIR)**

Healthcare professionals and support staff are requested to transition to access the AIR site using HPOS and an individual PRODA account. Access to the AIR site using authentication files will be switched off soon.

PRODA is an online identity verification system and allows healthcare professionals to securely access government online services. Once a PRODA account is established, a number of services can be accessed, including HPOS and the AIR. Depending on the type of user, these services can be accessed either as an individual; a delegate of an individual or as a member of an organisation.

The Services Australia website provides further information and instructions on:

- [PRODA access and registration as an individual and an organisation](#)
- [Linking HPOS to your PRODA account and accessing the AIR](#)

Important note: If your organisation has already registered to use HPOS to access the AIR site, Authentication Files should not be used and must be deleted from practice personal computers. Accessing the AIR site using HPOS provides improved security features designed to provide appropriate control over access to an individual's immunisation records. An Authentication File is deleted in the same way that a document or other file is deleted eg. (if using Microsoft, right click on file, select delete, select Yes).

Further Information:

PRODA: <http://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/proda>

Telephone: 1800 700 199

HPOS: <http://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/hpos>

Telephone: 1800 700 199

AIR: <http://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/hpair>

Telephone: 1800 653 809 (general enquiries)

Telephone: 1300 650 039 (AIR intranet help)

WNSW PHN: Michelle Droulers 0418 713 979

➤ **WNSW LHD Specialist Intellectual Disability Health Team**

WNSW Local Health District has issued a new Fact Sheet for its Specialist Intellectual Disability Health Team.

[Download the WNSW LHD Specialist Intellectual Disability Health Team Fact Sheet here](#)

➤ **Streptococcus Alert Issued by Walgett AMS**

There is currently a health concern among children within the community caused by a bacteria called streptococcus.

Streptococcus causes a wide range of disease in children, from mild illnesses such as tonsillitis and skin infections, to more severe infections which can cause kidney inflammation.

[Download the Information from Walgett AMS here](#)

➤ **Reframing Children's Mental Health**

A new toolkit, by the FrameWorks Institute and the Emerging Minds: National Workforce Centre for Child Mental Health (NWC), has been developed, based on research about how practitioners understand children's mental health, and how their understanding impacts their support for policies to promote better mental health outcomes for Australia's children. It is intended to support child mental health experts and organisations who communicate about children's mental health to create messages that resonate and inspire positive change.

[Access the toolkit here](#)

[Access more information about Emerging Minds here](#)

[Access more information about the FrameWorks Institute here](#)

➤ **Telehealth Care Delivery for Hepatitis C Treatment in Australia**

Researchers at La Trobe University are seeking to interview healthcare practitioners who have delivered telehealth (phone and/or video conferencing) for hepatitis C treatment during COVID-19. Participation involves an audio-recorded one-hour interview, over phone or video conference.

The study will support the hepatitis C sector to optimise the use of telehealth.

[Find out more and participate in the study here](#)

WEBINARS

Name	Date	About	Link	Cost
Companion Training for Seasons for Growth Children and Young People's Program	Thursday 8 April 2021 from 10am - 4pm	Grow your Professional Learning and foster resilience and wellbeing in the children and young people in your care.	Register here	Free
Diagnosis & Management of PTSD in Emergency Service Workers	Thursday 8 April 2021 at 6pm	This workshop has been designed with a focus on GPs, to diagnose patients with acute stress disorder, post-traumatic stress disorder and other comorbidities.	Register here	Free
Eat better, feel better, get better	Thursday 8 April 2021 at 7:00pm	This webinar will explore how eHealth technologies can be used to span the gap in access to personalised nutrition and improve nutrition related health and well-being.	Register here	Free
Companion Training for Seasons for Growth Children and Young People's Program	Friday 9 April 2021 from 10am - 4pm	Seasons for Growth is an evidence-based, early intervention program that strengthens emotional wellbeing of children and young people who are dealing with changes in their life	Register here	Free
Active Script List Panel Discussion	Tuesday 13 April 2021 at 6:30pm	Join the Australian Digital Health Agency at this webinar to learn more about the roll-out of the Active Script List and what you need to know to assist your patients' access to their medicines via the ASL.	Register Here	Free
Seasons for Growth: Children & Young People's Program	Thursday 15 April 2021 from 9am - 3:30pm	Seasons for Growth is an evidence-based, early intervention program that strengthens emotional wellbeing of children and young people who are dealing with changes in their life	Register Here	Free
Webinar: Assessment and Management of Concussion	Thursday April 15 2021 at 6pm	Learn about how to assess and manage concussion using the Sports Concussion Assessment Tool 5 in this webinar developed by ACSEP, Dr Sharon Stay and Dr Martin Raftery.	Register Here	Free

Name	Date	About	Link	Cost
Basic Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) Training for GPs, Registrars and Practice Nurses	Saturday 17 April 2021 from 9:00 to 11:00am	This course describes the skills and knowledge required to perform CPR in line with the Australian Resuscitation Council (ARC) Guidelines. All candidates are required to successfully complete a written and practical assessment (including performing at least two minutes of uninterrupted CPR on an infant and an adult resuscitation manikin, which will require kneeling on the floor).	Register Here	Free
Basic Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) Training for GPs, Registrars and Practice Nurses	Saturday 17 April 2021 from 12:00 to 2:00pm	This course describes the skills and knowledge required to perform CPR in line with the Australian Resuscitation Council (ARC) Guidelines. All candidates are required to successfully complete a written and practical assessment (including performing at least two minutes of uninterrupted CPR on an infant and an adult resuscitation manikin, which will require kneeling on the floor).	Register Here	Free
Basic Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) Training for GPs, Registrars and Practice Nurses	Saturday 17 April 2021 from 2:30 to 4:30pm	This course describes the skills and knowledge required to perform CPR in line with the Australian Resuscitation Council (ARC) Guidelines.	Register Here	Free
2021 Wound Management Update Bathurst	Monday 19 April 2021 at 8am	The course is designed for registered and enrolled nurses from all health sectors, as well as for clinicians working in Allied Health, Podiatry and Pharmacy. This is an interactive program which incorporates focused group discussion and small group case-study based activity.	Register Here	ACN Members \$410 Non-members \$455
Assessment and Management of Concussion	Tuesday April 20 2021 at 6pm	Learn about how to assess and manage concussion using the Sports Concussion Assessment Tool 5 in this webinar developed by ACSEP, Dr Sharon Stay and Dr Martin Rafferty.	Register Here	Free
Assessment and Management of Concussion	Wednesday April 21 2021 at 6pm	Learn about how to assess and manage concussion using the Sports Concussion Assessment Tool 5 in this webinar developed by ACSEP, Dr Sharon Stay and Dr Martin Rafferty.	Register Here	Free

Name	Date	About	Link	Cost
Dementia Australia Information Session	Thursday 22 April 2021 from 7:15am - 9am	Thanks to Federal Government funding, Dementia Australia will provide a free information session for Bathurst.	Register Here	Free
Building Trauma Awareness	Thursday 22 April 2021 at 9am	The Building Trauma Awareness webinar has been designed to provide information on understanding trauma and its impacts, to offer space for professionals to self-reflect on wellbeing, remember the importance of relationships in healing and provide knowledge and space for reflection.	Register Here	Free
Immunisation for at-risk patients using CAT Plus	Thursday 22 April 2021 from 1:00 - 1:30pm	Learn how to use CAT Plus to assist with your management of immunisation for at-risk patients.	Register Here	Free
Building Trauma Awareness	Wednesday 28 April 2021 at 9am	The Building Trauma Awareness webinar has been designed to provide information on understanding trauma and its impacts, to offer space for professionals to self-reflect on wellbeing, remember the importance of relationships in healing and provide knowledge and space for reflection.	Register Here	Free

REMINDERS

➤ QI PIP

WNSW PHN looks forward to seeing Practices during the current PIP Quarter to continue working on your Quality Improvement. You can contact us anytime for QI support. For inspiration head to <https://help.pencs.com.au/display/CR> for Pen Cat recipes.

RESOURCES

Please click on this link to our website to view all the latest information relating to General Practice:

<https://www.wnswphn.org.au/support/GP-Resources-Newsletter>