



# General Practice Resource Newsletter

**August 2022**

Welcome to the practice resource newsletter for August. We are now in a new PIP quarter and the last month of winter. We look forward to working with you to continue working on your Aboriginal Health Initiatives, Digital Health, Accreditation, Quality Improvement and Business Support.

## PRIMARY CARE NEWS

### ➤ August MBS Cards

[MBS Quick Guide to COVID-19 Items \(updated August 2022\)](#)

[MBS Quick Guide \(updated August 2022\)](#)

### ➤ Changes to the MBS

From 1 July, a number of changes will be introduced to the Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS).

[News containing information on changes to the MBS for 1 July 2022.](#)

[RACGP rundown on changes to the MBS.](#)

[The revised 1 July 2022 XML file is now available on MBS Online here.](#)

### ➤ Living with COVID-19 Home Commissioned Visits

WNSW PHN has initiated a new program to facilitate home visits by GPs and practice nurses to patients who are managing COVID-19 at home. This includes home visits to Residential Aged Care Facilities (RACF) patients and people who are isolating at home as a close contact.

[More information on Home Commissioned visits.](#)

### ➤ Vulnerable Persons In Reach Vaccination Program

WNSW PHN has initiated a new program to facilitate an in-reach service by GPs and practice nurses to administer COVID-19 and Influenza vaccinations to vulnerable persons. This includes in-reach to Residential Aged Care Facilities (RACF).

[WNSW PHN Vulnerable Persons In-Reach vaccination program.](#)

## ➤ Health Professional Education Resources

[The new Health Professional Education Resources website is now live on the Services Australia website.](#)

## ➤ Information Webinar, Medicare billing and claiming – basics

This module explains generic aspects for patient billing and the different claiming and payment options. It also outlines the information required on itemised accounts, receipts and bulk bill claims for billing purposes as well as record keeping requirements.

[Watch the webinar here.](#)

## ➤ 2022 AAPM Practice Manager of the Year Awards

The AAPM Practice Manager of the Year award recognises and rewards a Practice Manager for their outstanding contributions to leadership, the profession, professional development and their team.

[Get more information or nominate here.](#)

## ➤ Avant/AAPM Scholarship Application

[To Apply for a 2022 Avant/AAPM Scholarship please download the application pack.](#)

## ➤ Care Partnership Diabetes registrations open

**Care Partnership – Diabetes** focuses on enhancing health outcomes for people living with T2DM in Western and Far West NSW. We know that when detected earlier and when comprehensive and evidence-based care is provided, there is opportunity for remission and a reduction in the development of secondary complications.

Working in the rural and remote primary health environment is both rewarding and challenging. We also recognise that there are gaps in access to and consistency of services that impact on patient care and outcomes. This is why NSW is initiating a Collaborative Commissioning funding model for chronic disease to better support a more agile and responsive health sector across our regional footprint.

[Register your interest today at Care Partnership - Diabetes : Western NSW PHN](#)  
or contact [fallon.gray@wnswphn.org.au](mailto:fallon.gray@wnswphn.org.au) for further information.

## ➤ Youth type 2 diabetes webinar series

A 10 part webinar series aimed at providing Clinicians with comprehensive and up-to-date information to improve the care of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people with type 2 diabetes. The series commences Thursday 4 August and will run until December 2022.

[Register here to receive further information and updates.](#)

➤ **Winter Vaccinations – Ask the Question Campaign Toolkit**

Health professionals are being encouraged to ‘Ask the Question – Are you up to date with your flu and COVID-19 vaccinations?’ to help with vaccination of the Winter months.

[Winter Ask the Question campaign toolkit for health professionals.](#)

➤ **RACGP Winter Planning Toolkit**

RACGP Winter Planning Toolkit highlights key priority and principles of:

- Infection prevention and control
- Workforce prevention and planning
- Processes for patient management
- Managing the risk of cross infection
- Health and wellbeing of staff

[The toolkit is available on the RACGP website.](#)

➤ **Closing the Gap Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme**

Services Australia has established e-learning modules to help PBS prescribers and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practitioners to register eligible patients for the CTG PBS Co-payment Program.

[How to register for CTG PBS.](#)

➤ **NASH SHA-2**

If you renewed your NASH in March 2022 or earlier to SHA-1, you'll need to renew again to the new SHA-2 technology before December 2022.

[Log in to PRODA and HPOS and renewed your NASH to SHA-2 as soon as you can.](#)

# PRIMARY CARE SUPPORT CONTACTS

We can help you in any of the below

areas: Aboriginal Health Initiatives

Digital Health

Education and

Training Accreditation

Quality

Improvement

Business Support

PIP QI

Shirlene Brokenshire – 0407 632 004

Natalie Welsh – 0437 692 614

Therese Gale – 0439 104 597

## Digital Health

Brenton Jones – 0418 861 918

## Immunisation and Cancer Screening

Michelle Droulers – 0418 713 979

## Education

Katie Prior – 0409 850 368

Erica Gilbert - 0428 311 887

Liz Robinson - 0437 450 592

## General Manager – Primary Healthcare and Integration

Sonya Berryman – 0417 810 234

## Why we support General Practice

GPs are the frontline of healthcare in Australia. Investing in strong GP-led primary healthcare helps people to lead healthier lives—and if they become unwell, to receive the right care, in the right place, at the right time.

### The case for change in primary healthcare

Evidence from both Australia and overseas suggests that general practice will have a stronger role in healthcare to prevent and manage chronic disease.

Better knowledge, better treatments and less exposure to health risks means we are now living longer than ever before.

But as our population ages we are living with more chronic diseases such as diabetes, kidney disease, cancer and cardiovascular disease.

These diseases and related conditions are best managed within a primary care setting incorporating multidisciplinary teams, with appropriate support from hospitals.

International evidence suggests that integrated and coordinated primary healthcare systems focused on the needs of the individual are what work best.

PHNs were created to work with regional partners in making these changes, tailored to local needs. Community needs assessments are an integral part of this work.

## WEBINARS and EVENTS

Basic CPR Dubbo (morning session)	Saturday 6 August From 10am	This course describes the skills and knowledge required to perform CPR in line with the Australian Resuscitation Council (ARC) Guidelines.	<a href="#">Register here</a>	Free
WNSW PHN Webinar: Working with the Nephrologist: Stages 4 & 5 Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD)	Tuesday 9 August 7pm – 9:15pm	This is a GP and Registrar focussed event, however, Medical Students, Nurses, Allied Health Professionals, Aboriginal Health Professionals and Pharmacists with an interest in this topic are welcome to participate.	<a href="#">Register here</a>	Free
WNSW PHN: Spirometry Training Course (Orange)	Thursday 18 August 9am – 5pm	The Spirometry Training Course provides comprehensive training in the application, measurement and interpretation of expiratory spirometry in general practice.	<a href="#">Register here</a>	Free
WNSW PHN: Heartbreak After Preeclampsia and The MothersBabies Microbiome Study (Orange)	Thursday 18 August 6:30pm – 8:30pm	This face-to-face education and networking session will discuss the increased risk of later cardiovascular disease and diabetes in women who have had hypertension in pregnancy and how these women should be followed up.	<a href="#">Register here</a>	Free
WNSW PHN: Spirometry Training Course (Dubbo)	Friday 19 August 9am – 5pm	The Spirometry Training Course provides comprehensive training in the application, measurement and interpretation of expiratory spirometry in general practice.	<a href="#">Register here</a>	
WNSW PHN Webinar: Understanding Chronic Kidney Disease: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Workers and Practitioners	Thursday 25 August 12:30pm – 1:45pm	Due to the popularity of this education session in 2021, the Western NSW PHN is pleased to partner with Kidney Health Australia to once again present this interactive case-study based webinar which has been updated to better suit the target audienc	<a href="#">Register here</a>	
WNSW PHN: Immunotherapy Update (Webinar & F2F)	Thursday 25 August <b>Face-to-face</b> 6.30pm to 8.30pm <b>Virtual</b> 6.55pm login for 7.00pm start	Immunotherapy (IT), which is very different to chemotherapy, is the new frontier against cancer. As many cancer patients are now undertaking immunotherapy as part of their cancer treatment pathway, it is important for GPs to be well informed about IT. This will be a case-based discussion around various cancer immunotherapy (IT) treatments.	<a href="#">Register here</a>	

## August Awareness Days

1 – 31 August	Tradies National Health Month	<a href="#">Australian Physiotherapy Association</a>
1 – 31 August	MS Readathon Challenge	<a href="#">Multiple Sclerosis Limited</a>
1 – 7 August	OCD and Anxiety Disorders Week	<a href="#">Anxiety Recovery Centre Victoria</a>
1 – 7 August	National Landcare Week	<a href="#">Landcare Australia</a>
1 – 7 August	Homelessness Prevention Week	<a href="#">Homelessness Australia</a>
1 – 7 August	CafeSmart for Homelessness	<a href="#">Street Smart</a>
4 August	National Aboriginal and Islander Children’s Day	<a href="#">Aboriginal Children’s Day</a>
5 August	Jeans for Genes Day	<a href="#">Jeans for Genes Day</a>
7 – 13 August	National EOS Awareness Week	<a href="#">AusEE</a>
8 August	Dying to Know Day	<a href="#">The Groundswell Project</a>
8 August	Top 8 Challenge Day	<a href="#">AusEE</a>
8 – 14 August	National Stroke Week	<a href="#">National Stroke Foundation</a>
9 August	International Day of the World’s Indigenous Peoples	<a href="#">United Nations</a>
10 – 20 August	Kidney Kar Rally	<a href="#">Kidney Health Australia</a>
12 – 13 August	Red Nose Day	<a href="#">Red Nose</a>
22 – 28 August	Speech Pathology Week	<a href="#">Speech Pathology Australia</a>
26 August	Daffodil Day	<a href="#">Daffodil Day Australia</a>
27 August	Tracky Dack Day	<a href="#">TLC for Kids</a>
27 August	Unity Walk and Run	<a href="#">Parkinsons NSW</a>
31 August	National Meals on Wheels Day	<a href="#">Meals on Wheels Australia</a>
31 August	International Overdose Awareness Day	<a href="#">The Salvation Army Crisis Services</a>

# NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

The WNSW PHN Website is regularly updated 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>

[WNSW PHN COVID-19 Vaccination Matters Quick Contact Guide](#)

[COVID-19 Booster Dose Advice](#)

[Expanded ATAGI Advice on Winter COVID-19 Booster doses](#)

[COVID-19 Vaccine - Inreach Clinics Factsheet](#)

[COVID-19 Winter Dose Payments Factsheet \(April 29 2022\)](#)

[Clinical Summary Report](#)

## ➤ COVID-19 MBS Telehealth Services

[COVID-19 Temporary MBS Telehealth Services Factsheet](#)

[MBS Quick Guide to COVID-19 Items \(updated August 2022\)](#)

[MBS Quick Guide \(updated August 2022\)](#)

[RACGP MBS Aged Care clinical guide \(updated July 2022\)](#)

[MBS Factsheet - Continuing MBS Telehealth Services](#)

[MBS COVID-19 telehealth 'existing relationship' requirement - Clarification of exemptions](#)

## ➤ NSW Health COVID-19 Updates

[COVID-19 Rules](#)

[NSW Government Face Mask Rules](#)

[Self-isolation rules for cases and people exposed to COVID-19](#)

[COVID-19 Infection Prevention and Control Manual, Version 2.4, 15 July 2022.](#)

## ➤ HealthPathways COVID-19

<https://westernnsw.communityhealthpathways.org/728651.htm>

**Username** = westernnsw

**Password** = healthcare

## 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>





