



General Practice Resource Newsletter

January 2022

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:

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

The Month Ahead:

| | | |
|--------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 4 Jan | World Braille Day | United Nations |
| 24 Jan | International Day of Education | United Nations |

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](#)

[Provider Bulletin: \(December 2021\)](#)

[COVID-19 Infection Prevention and Control Manual \(October 2021\)](#)

[Handling consent refusal by people presenting for vaccination](#)

[COVID -19 in Children: Resources for Primary Care](#)

➤ **COVID-19 MBS Telehealth Services**

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

[MBS Quick Guide to COVID-19 Items \(updated October 2021\)](#)

[MBS Quick Guide \(updated December 2021\)](#)

[RACGP MBS Aged Care guide \(updated September 2021\)](#)

➤ **Vaccination Order Extended to Primary Care and Private Sector Health Service Providers**

Mandatory vaccination requirements will be extended to all primary care and other private sector health service providers across NSW, with these workers required to have had two doses of a COVID-19 vaccine by 31 January 2022.

These changes are consistent with requirements in other states and territories, including Victoria, Queensland, and Western Australia.

NSW Health earlier this year introduced mandatory vaccination for its healthcare workers to help protect patients, visitors, other health staff and the wider community.

[Vaccination order extended to primary care and private sector health service providers Full Story](#)

GENERAL INFORMATION

➤ **Updated ATAGI advice on the administration of seasonal influenza vaccines in 2021 (December 2021)**

As international borders open, the Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI) has issued updated advice for the rollout of influenza vaccines.

[Updated ATAGI advice on the administration of seasonal influenza vaccines in 2021 \(December 2021\)](#)

➤ **NSW Immunisation Schedule Update**

The updated NSW Immunisation Schedule has been released, incorporating the extension of the Shingles catch-up program until 31 October 2023.

[NSW Immunisation Schedule Update](#)

➤ **Strong Minds Western NSW Accepting new Referrals**

Strong Minds Western NSW is an evidence based, short-term counselling service offering up to 12 FREE psychological consultations for people with mental health difficulties.

[Strong Minds Western NSW Brochure](#)

➤ **My Aged Care Face-To-Face Service Offer**

My Aged Care is the main entry point into the aged care system in Australia. My Aged Care aims to make it easier for senior Australians, their families, and carers to access information on ageing and aged care, have their needs assessed, eligibility identified, and be supported to find and access services.

[My Aged Care Face-To-Face Service Offer](#)

➤ **BP Premier: Connecting to Medicare Web Services**

In Saffron SP2, Medicare, DVA, and Concession verification will use Medicare Web Services. Online claiming and the Australian Immunisation register will begin using Medicare Web Services as of Saffron SP3.

[BP Premier: Connecting to Medicare Web Services](#)

➤ **National Cervical Screening Program Public Consultation**

Cancer Council Australia has been contracted by the Australian Department of Health to perform an update to [The National Cervical Screening Program: Guidelines for the management of screen-detected abnormalities, screening in specific populations and investigation of abnormal vaginal bleeding](#) to support the planned policy change to provide universal access to self-collection.

[PUBLIC CONSULTATION: National Cervical Screening Program Guidelines](#)

➤ **How to use CAT and Topbar to better manage diabetes in your practice**

Pen CS has a range of resources to assist your use of CAT Plus to better manage diabetes in your practice. See the below videos:

- [Chronic disease management - Improving health outcomes for patients with diabetes using CAT Plus](#)
- [Cleaning your diabetes register](#)
- [PIP QI Quality Improvement Measures Diabetes](#)

➤ **Working with Low Health Literacy: Three Tips for Telehealth**

Telephone and video add an extra degree of health literacy difficulty to consultations. Here are three tips to make your consultation more responsive to the health literacy needs of your patients.

1. Use everyday words and phrases and explain unavoidable jargon and technical terms.
2. Ask your caller to repeat back in their own words any important information you've shared, to check understanding.
3. As you wrap-up your call, recap the key points and provide clear next steps for your caller.

Get more tips on our [In-person information delivery checklist](#), or from our [health literacy project officers](#), Kath and Karen.

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>