

Doctor's Notes



Clinical Communique

Issue 35 - December 2018

Merry Christmas from the PHN

Thank you for supporting the Western NSW Primary Health Network (WNSW PHN) in 2018. It has been a year of achievement and change as we commission new services across the region. We are pleased to have funded services for Aboriginal health, mental health, after hours, drug and alcohol, early intervention for children and chronic disease management.



\$22 million

Allocated to **services that meet the primary health needs** of our communities.



94%

Of GP practices registered for My Health Record, that are also uploading shared health summaries.

2111

Participants who attended 80 continuing professional development (CPD) education workshops for health professionals - **95 per cent rated the sessions as 'excellent'**.



Western NSW residents who have spoken with one of our digital health officers face-to-face about My Health Record. **Our digital health team has visited 109 different locations across 27 LGAs** to speak with communities on My Health Record.

2639

5

Health advisory councils that support our region - the **Western and Far West Clinical, Western and Far West Community and Aboriginal Health** councils.



3187

Participants engaged for our Needs Assessment to determine **the 10 priority health needs** of the region. This included 12 public workshops, plus phone and online surveys.

161

Clinicians, other primary health professionals and support staff who attended our **Aboriginal Cultural Safety workshops** at six different locations.



675

Participants enrolled in our online education program for aged care workers - **with 2143 certifications issued**.



Regional centres visited by Desert Pea Media as part of the **'Break It Down - Conversations Around Mental Health'** initiative funded by our PHN. The program looked to create awareness and conversations on wellbeing for indigenous youth in Western NSW communities - breaking down stigmas and connecting community with local health services.

7

Practices and health services engaged for the Telehealth in Residential Aged Care (TRAC) program.

11

Call **1300 696 167** or visit **wswphn.org.au**

DUBBO (Head Office) | BROKEN HILL | BATHURST | ORANGE | BOURKE

Thank you to the PHN's service providers for the work they do with people and communities across the region. We look forward to continuing to support, strengthen and shape a world class person-centred primary care system in 2019. Wishing you a very happy and healthy festive season.

Andrew Harvey, CEO, Western NSW Primary Health Network

Training requirement for yellow fever vaccine



Australian College of
Rural & Remote Medicine
WORLD LEADERS IN RURAL PRACTICE

All immunisation providers including those with previous experience or qualifications in travel medicine who wish to prescribe and administer Yellow Fever vaccine are required to complete the online **Yellow Fever Vaccination Course** available through the Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine's **learning portal**.

The course aims to ensure that all prescribers are familiar with international requirements, along with the other unique aspects of the vaccine that are fundamental for safe clinical decision making.

[Find out more >>](#)



The Royal Australian
College of General
Practitioners

New resources for general practice

The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) has recently released a number of resources for general practice. The resources have been developed by the RACGP Expert Committee - Practice Technology and Management and include:

- **Improving health record quality in general practice**
- **Responding to online reviews**
- **My Health Record in general practice**

Dementia help for frontline healthcare services



The International Research Network on Dementia Prevention (IRNDP) is an Australian-led initiative designed to further research on dementia prevention and dementia risk reduction.

To develop information and support for primary healthcare providers IRNDP is conducting a survey to learn what GPs and practice nurses already know about dementia risk reduction and where the barriers might be for dementia risk reduction in primary healthcare

Take the **survey** now

[More about IRNDP >>](#)

Gain new referrals from national eating disorders helpline



Australia's eating disorders tele-health service, the Butterfly Foundation's National Helpline, which receives more than 12,000 consumer contacts a year,

is calling for more practitioners and services with a basic understanding of eating disorders to apply to be on their database.

General Practitioners, Psychiatrists, Psychologists, Dietitians, Counsellors, Dentists, other clinicians and allied health practitioners from private, public and community services with a basic understanding of treating eating disorders are encouraged to **find out more and apply**.

[Find out more >>](#)

In Brief

- A **fact sheet** has been developed to help healthcare professionals in the event of accidental self-injection of Gudair, a vaccine that protects sheep and goats from a wasting disease known as Ovine Johne's Disease (OJD).
- The Therapeutic Goods Administration has advised GPs of a product defect alert for ColoVantage Home-Faecal Immunochemical Test Kits. Learn more **here**.
- Following the extension of the opt-out period GPs will soon receive updated **My Health Record** resources for their patients.
- Cancer Institute NSW wants feedback on the development of smoking cessation programs. Take the **survey** now.
- The Department of Health is inviting submissions to inform the Review of Quality Use of Medicines Program's Delivery by the National Prescribing Service MedicineWise (NPS) (the Review). Learn more **here**.
- Western NSW Imaging is seeking feedback to identify any gaps in medical imaging service throughout Western NSW LHD. Give your feedback **here**.

Training and Events

WNSW PHN organises regular CPD events for doctors and health professionals. These are listed on our [website](#). Upcoming events organised or supported by WNSW PHN include:

- **Hot Topics GP Update (Men's Health)** - January 23, webinar
- **My Health Record Expansion education session** - January 30, Coonabarabran
- **Tricky diabetes: acute illness, steroids and pumps** - February 7, Mudgee
- **Family Planning NSW Clinical Forum for Doctors and Nurses** - February 9, Dubbo
- **Spirometry training course** - February 19, Mudgee
- **Hot Topics GP Update Workshop** - February 24, Sydney
- **Promoting Participation in the National Cervical Screening Program to Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Women** - February 26, Bourke
- **Promoting Participation in the National Cervical Screening Program to Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Women** - February 27, Dubbo



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.

We acknowledge that we work on the traditional lands of many Aboriginal clans, tribes and nations. We commit to working in collaboration with our region's Aboriginal communities and peoples to improve their health, emotional and social wellbeing in the spirit of partnership.



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