



Media Release

14th July 2016

Tempering western Sydney's diabetes hotspot

As part of a region-wide strategy to tackle diabetes in western Sydney, WentWest and its partners continue to work together to combat the rise of the condition. This week's national Diabetes Awareness Week campaign offers an ideal platform to once again highlight how the community and its health professionals are seeking new and innovative solutions to topple diabetes.

Among the initiatives currently in action is a [Case Conferencing](#) program, supporting local GPs in the management of diabetic patients. In its second year of operation the program continues to see tangible results. With over 400 GPs and 75 primary care nurses involved, a total of 600 patients have been consulted across 115 general practices. The role of the primary care nurses in diabetes management has also been brought into focus through an ongoing education series offering extended training to enhance the support of GPs in the ongoing management of their patients.

More broadly, WentWest is working closely with the community to build greater awareness and management of the condition. Initiatives such as the [Western Sydney Diabetes Support Group](#), the [Rouse Hill Diabetes Education service](#) and [Diabetes & Management program](#) form part of a multi-pronged strategy seeking to encourage greater consumer engagement, understanding and self-management of the condition.

To find out more about how western Sydney is combating diabetes, download a copy of the [Western Sydney Diabetes Prevention & Management Initiative](#) – a comprehensive, multilayered approach between WentWest and its partners the Western Sydney Local Health District.

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About WentWest

WentWest's focus on providing better health care in the community was strengthened with its appointment as a Tranche 1 Medicare Local in July 2011 to now operating as the Western Sydney Primary Health Network. WentWest has built on its experience as a Division of General Practice in supporting GPs and their practices, connecting health services to meet local needs, and striving for better health outcomes for western Sydney.

The population living in western Sydney is culturally, linguistically and socio-economically diverse, and we also have the largest urban Aboriginal community in Australia. WentWest works closely with doctors, allied health professionals, the Local Health District and many others to improve the coordination of local health and human services for these patients and their families.