

April Falls Day focuses on seniors well-being

April is a timely reminder for all Australian's to be aware of falls prevention for the elderly with April Falls Day and the NSW Senior's Festival starting this week. To support April Falls Day, The Clinical Excellence Commission has developed online resources for health professionals to help focus on this year's topic of nutrition and hydration for older people and how eating well can prevent falls.

One in three people living in the community aged 65 years and over fall every year. Falls are the most common condition that NSW Ambulance are called to with over 100,000 responses per year however research suggests that older people are reluctant to report their fall to their family or GP for fear of losing their independence.

As part of the Western Sydney Falls collaboration, the Western Sydney Primary Health Network (WSPHN) has re-commissioned two falls prevention programs to address identified gaps in the region, improving the delivery and accessibility of falls-related care in western Sydney.

Optimise your Balance and Still Standing work closely with GPs, the Western Sydney Local Health District (WSLHD) and NSW Ambulance to refine service accessibility so they can respond in a timely manner and access seniors who are difficult to reach. Additional information about falls prevention, assessment and management is available on the HealthPathways portal. Access these and many more pathways using the below login details: Username: health Password: w3stern



Events

Webinar: Pre-conception and early pregnancy - discussing options with your patients

Wednesday 18th April 2018

11:00am - 11:30am

Diabetes Support Group: Blood Glucose Monitoring

Tuesday 24th April 2018

5:45pm - 7:00pm

Palliative approach for general practitioners

Tuesday 8th May 2018

6:30pm - 9:00pm

Other News

Measles alert

Two infants were diagnosed with measles in western Sydney this week shortly after returning from south Asia. The Western Sydney and Liverpool Public Health Units have contacted all relevant susceptible contacts to arrange prophylaxis, however other people are likely to have been exposed and not provided with prophylaxis. Please watch for secondary cases from now until 16th April 2018 and distribute the NSW Alert to all GPs in your practice.

Child dental benefits schedule

GPs can play an important role by encouraging good oral health practices as part of a young person's overall health.

With the Department of Health's Child Dental Benefits Schedule, some of your patients aged 2-17 can access \$1,000 worth of Medicare support for general dental treatment. Find out more at health.gov.au/cdbs

GP Association meeting

The below GP Association meeting is coming up in western Sydney:

Hills: Improving asthma symptom control in general practice - Wednesday 4th April