

## World Immunisation Week - protected together

It's World Immunisation Week which aims to highlight the collective action needed to ensure that every person is protected from vaccine-preventable diseases. This year's theme: "Protected Together #VaccinesWork", encourages people at every level, from doctors to the general public, to go further in their efforts to increase immunisation coverage for the greater good.

Immunisation continues to be a focus for Western Sydney Primary Health Network, through a number of initiatives including the long-standing Immunisation Bike Competition, aimed at increasing childhood immunisation rates with a record-breaking 2,640 participants during our 2017-18 campaign. In addition, HealthPathways offers local health professionals a suite of information and resources for influenza, measles and childhood immunisation.

The annual National Seasonal Influenza Vaccination Program kicks off this month and the newly NSW-funded vaccination program for all children aged six months to less than five years will also be available from this time.

The annual seasonal influenza vaccination is recommended for any person aged six months and over and is free for people who are at higher risk of complications from the flu under the National Immunisation Program.

The below resources for vaccination providers are available online:

☒ Clinical advice for vaccination providers factsheet ☒ Check you have the right vaccine safety card ☒ Australian Immunisation Register factsheet ☒ Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI) administration of 2018 influenza vaccines ☒ National Centre for Immunisation Research and Surveillance (NCIRS) influenza vaccines FAQs NSW Health have also released GP alerts on the seasonal influenza vaccination, including information on the Flaud trivalent influenza vaccine risk to patients with a latex allergy.

Information which has been recorded with the Australian Immunisation Register can be viewed in a patient's My Health Record. Parents are being encouraged to use My Health Record this week to view information and see reminders of their child's immunisations.



## Events

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### Palliative approach for general practitioners

Tuesday 8th May 2018

6:30pm - 9:00pm

### Basic diabetes education for practice nurses

Tuesday 15th May 2018

8:00am - 4:00pm

### It's time to act on the obesity epidemic now!

Tuesday 22nd May 2018

5:30pm - 8:20pm

### Mental health professional network event

Tuesday 29th May 2018

6:00pm - 8:30pm

## Other News

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### Public consultation: Meningococcal and Hib vaccination recommendations

The ATAGI public consultation is still open on proposed changes to meningococcal and Haemophilus influenzae type B vaccination recommendations in the Australian Immunisation Handbook. It can be accessed on the Department of Health's website and closes on Sunday 6th May.

### Mass vaccination clinics policy documents

The Mass Vaccination Clinics during an Influenza Pandemic policy documents have been released. Please distribute this information to relevant staff in your practice.

### New national guide

The National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO) and The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) have jointly produced the third edition of the National guide to a preventive health assessment for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people (National Guide).

The National Guide is a practical resource intended for all health professionals delivering primary health care to Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander peoples. Its purpose is to provide health professionals with an accessible, user friendly guide to best practice in preventive health care for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patients.

### Have your say - WSU integrative medicine clinic

Western Sydney University (WSU) invites GPs and practice managers to participate in research seeking to develop a new health service in Westmead. This clinic will integrate complementary therapies (e.g. acupuncture and yoga) with conventional health care, in a research-focused environment.

This research is led by Dr Carolyn Ee, FRACGP/WSU Senior Research Fellow in collaboration with Prof. Jennifer Reath from the Department of General Practice.

Register your interest online or email [c.ee@westernsydney.edu.au](mailto:c.ee@westernsydney.edu.au).

## GP Association meetings

The below GP Association meetings are coming up in western Sydney:

Hills: The doctor as leader in sustainable health care - planetary health, a new paradigm, Wednesday 2nd May.

Blacktown: Treating type 2 diabetes - reducing CV risk, Wednesday 16 May.

Westmead: Haematology GP updates, Wednesday 23rd May.

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