

Supporting GPs responding to AOD concerns

Western Sydney Primary Health Network (WSPHN) is committed to supporting GPs in our region to treat drug and alcohol issues. As a result, we partnered with the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) and the South Western Sydney Primary Health Network to run AOD18 in early February where 81 highly motivated GPs attended the active learning module.

Developed and facilitated by leading alcohol and other drug experts, the educational event was designed to assist health care professionals recognise and respond to patients who present with drug and alcohol concerns.

Using a speed dating approach, attendees were able to meet western Sydney drug and alcohol service providers including Odyssey House, Salvation Army's headfyrst, Drug and Alcohol Multicultural Education Service (DAMEC) and the Western Sydney Local Health District's Drug Health service whilst learning how and when to refer patients.

One area of high interest was how to support patients who can no longer obtain over the counter codeine and are experiencing dependence. GPs were able to practice their assessment and motivational interviewing skills using real life case study examples.

To further help GPs, WSPHN is running a focus group next week to learn more about what information GPs need to support their patients. Contact Nikki Woolley at Nikki.woolley@wentwest.com for information on future learning opportunities.

We're also excited to advise we now have localised drug and alcohol HealthPathways available on the Western Sydney portal. You can access these and many more pathways by using the below login details:

Username: healthPassword: w3stern



Events

NCIRS - Influenza prevention and control: We can do better

Monday 12th March 2018

1:00pm - 2:00pm

Meet your neighbour

Thursday 15th March 2018

10:00am - 12:30pm

Hepatitis B seminar for Cantonese community

Monday 19th March 2018

10:00am - 12:00pm

My Health Record: Get connected - Opt out is coming

Thursday 22nd March 2018

6:30pm - 9:30pm

Other News

Kidney Health Week

During Kidney Health Week, 5 to 11 March, Kidney Health Australia (KHA) is raising awareness that one in three people living in Australia is at risk of developing chronic kidney disease. KHA offers online learning modules and videos for health professionals through ThinkGP. For more information visit www.kidney.org.au

Localised HealthPathways relating to kidney disease and injury are also available via westernsydney.healthpathways.org.au

Username: health Password: w3stern

Q fever: New e-learning module

NSW Health is launching a public education campaign this month to promote awareness of Q fever and encourage vaccination among those at risk.

The 'Q fever: early diagnosis and vaccination' online learning module is available on the Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine (ACRRM) website and is free for ACRRM members and Rural and Remote Medical Education Online (RRMEO) subscribers.

A number of funded places are available for NSW GPs courtesy of Health Protection NSW by using the

campaign code NSWGP18. Find out more by calling 1300 066 055.

My Health Record brochure update

The Australian Digital Health Agency has recently updated the 'My Health Record – All you need to know' brochure with relevant statistics. If you have any stock of the old brochure, the Agency requests you discard these.

You can order new brochures by emailing health@nationalmailing.com.au or calling (02) 6269 1080.

GP Association meetings

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

Blacktown: HPV screening: an Australian success story - Wednesday 7th March.

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