

## Gear up for our Annual Immunisation Bike Competition

In a bid to boost the regions childhood immunisation rates the Western Sydney Primary Health Network (WSPHN) will launch its highly successful annual Immunisation Bike Competition on Tuesday 1st October. Every child who receives their 12 month, 18 month or 4 year-old immunisation during the competition period Tuesday 1st October 2019 to Friday 31st January 2020, will be eligible to go in to the draw to win a bike and helmet. Since its introduction in 2011, this initiative has seen more than 10,061 children immunised throughout the campaign periods.

Register your practice today by downloading the Expression of Interest Form or completing it online. Practices will be supported by our Practice Development Team and receive helpful marketing materials to promote the campaign.

Immunisation is a simple, safe and effective way of protecting people against harmful diseases before they encounter them. Immunisation not only protects individuals, but also wider in the community, by reducing the spread of preventable diseases. When vaccines are delayed or spaced out, children are unprotected for longer than they need to be at the age when disease is most common or most serious.

In 2019 statistics show that Western Sydney has a low immunisation rate of 88.76% between 24 to 27 months of age. The national immunisation target has been set at 95% for all children to be fully immunised in the region. The NSW immunisation schedule also recommends children receive vaccinations between birth and 4 years of age.

WSPHN will be holding a Fundamentals of Immunisation event in October. Guest speakers from the Public Health Unit and the WSPHN will cover topics including cold chain management, navigating the Immunisation handbook, accessing the Australian Immunisation Register and more. Further information will be available in the coming weeks on our website.



## Events

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### General Practice Quality Improvement Series: Accreditation, Data Driven Improvement and PIP QI

Tuesday 24th September 2019

6:00pm - 9:00am

### My Health Record Training on MedicalDirector

Wednesday 16th October 2019

6:30pm - 9:00pm

### Webinar: My Health Record - Mental Health Conditions

Tuesday 8th October 2019

1:00pm - 2:00pm

### Conference: Obesity and Related Chronic Disease

Wednesday 16th October 2019

7:00am - 5:00pm

## Other News

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### Pacific Mental Health Initiative Launch

The Pacific Mental Health Initiative is working toward the provision of culturally responsive, evidence-based mental health and well-being support for Pacific communities across Western Sydney.

RSVP to attend the launch at 12pm on Thursday 26th September at West Tradies by emailing [rowena.tagaloa@wentwest.com.au](mailto:rowena.tagaloa@wentwest.com.au)

To learn more about the Pacific Mental Health Initiative or download the flyer visit the CommunityHQ website.

### 'Every Week Counts' Towards the End of Pregnancy

Health care professionals and expectant mums are being targeted in a campaign which aims to tackle the trend of giving birth before 39 to 40 weeks.

The Every Week Counts campaign shines a light on a baby's crucial growth and development in the last few weeks of pregnancy.

Find more information, including links to the research about the benefits and risks of birth at each gestational age from 35 to 39 weeks.

## Depot Buprenorphine: Clinical Guidelines Available

NSW Health have released a new website on depot buprenorphine for health professionals in NSW.

These Guidelines provide clinical guidance and policy direction for opioid agonist treatment in NSW. They align with national directions and recommendations, and incorporate the latest international clinical evidence.

## Qualitative Study on Asthma

Western Sydney University are undertaking interviews with GPs and Practice Nurses working in Western Sydney to learn about the challenges and facilitators they experience when assessing and managing asthma to improve asthma care in the region.

Participants who would like to be involved will be invited to take part in a 30-60 minute interview in person or by phone. Participants will be compensated for their time.

Please see the attached recruitment flyer for more information.

## GP Association Meetings

The following GP Association Meetings are coming up in Western Sydney:

Mount Druitt: Medicinal Cannabis, Friday 27th September.

Hills: Cardiovascular disease (CVD) Prevention in Primary Practice, Wednesday 9th October.

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