

Please circulate this information to staff in your practice and display on the appropriate notice boards. Thank you.



Issue 14 | 31 July 2024

Southern GP Matters

Dear GP Practice Teams

We are certainly in the depths of winter and can only imagine how hard you are all working in service of the southern community!

We really want to encourage you all - GPs, GP Nurses, and Practice Managers - to reach out to us if there is anything we can do to help make your day a little smoother and enable the best outcomes for your patients.

Please email us via health.salhngpintegrationunit@sa.gov.au if we can help.

Dr Mai, Emma, and Emily

Education – CPD opportunities

- [SALHN Acute Care Webinar: hear from SALHN ED, OOH Nurses and other Urgent and out of hours Care services – Tuesday 6 August](#)
- [SALHN High Risk Foot Service update: education evening wrap up – a “total success”](#)

New Initiatives

- [Participants needed! Bridging the gap: a pilot project assessing efficacy and safety of a conscious sedation pathway for consumers with neurodevelopmental disability to access early health intervention.](#)

Service updates

- [SALHN Hepatology Nurses: Rachel and Rosalie here to help GPs with Hep C screening and management.](#)
- [Omega-3 Test-and-Treat Program: Reducing Preterm Births](#)
- [SALHN GP Integration Unit: new email address](#)

Education – CPD opportunities

SALHN Acute Care Webinar: hear from SALHN ED, OOH Nurses and other Urgent and out of hours Care services – Tuesday 6 August

We are pleased to share the below initiative with you, our “SALHN Acute Care Webinar”, in which we hope is another step towards fostering closer links and improving access to acute care in the South. You can expect to hear an update from a Senior SALHN ED Clinician, the SALHN Out of Hospital Nurse (OOH) Team (if there is any number to remember it’s theirs!), the SALHN Early Pregnancy Unit, Southern PCC and UCC and more!

We would really appreciate your support and attendance and value your contribution in what we hope provides an opportunity for discussion, information sharing, feedback, and collaboration around how we provide access to acute care for patients.

Please use the link or QR code below to register and submit your questions ahead of the session.

When: Tuesday, 6th August 2024, 7pm – 8:15pm

Where: Online

CPD: 1.25 hours (Educational Activities)

Register: <https://www.trybooking.com/CTMDT>

Ask a question: Post your questions ahead of the event at www.slido.com, using event code #3598017



INVITATION TO SALHN GP ACUTE CARE UPDATE

Join us at an online webinar for updates from the Southern Adelaide Local Health Network's Emergency Department and acute care services, plus a Q&A segment where we will be answering as many of your questions as possible.

GUEST SPEAKERS

- **Dr Matthew Wright**
– Co-Director, SALHN Emergency Department
- **Dr Max Adams**
– Clinical Lead, Marion Priority Care Centre and Marion Medicare Urgent Care Clinic
- **Dr Andrew Davids**
– Clinical Director, Morphett Vale Medicare Urgent Care Clinic
- **Peta Woodcock and Kyla Glover**
– Nurse Unit Manager
– Nurse Consultant, Metropolitan Referral Unit
- **Anita Santin**
– Midwifery Unit Manager, SALHN Women's Assessment Unit, Early Pregnancy Unit
- **Craig Weekley**
– Team Lead, SALHN Out of Hospital Team

EVENT DETAILS
Tuesday, 6 August 2024
7pm - 8:15pm

GPS, PRACTICE NURSES, PRACTICE MANAGERS AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF ARE ALL WELCOME!

For more information
Please contact the SALHN GP Integration Unit:
Health.GPIntegration@inlha.sa.gov.au

Health
Southern Adelaide
Local Health Network

Are you a GP or GP Practice Nurse thinking of referring a patient to the Emergency Department (ED)?

The Out Of Hospital (OOH) team is your one stop service to provide assistance in navigating urgent and after-hours care pathways that might be more suitable to your patient than ED.

Call the OOH team on 0481 902 546 (FMC) or 0467 798 312 (Noarlunga)

- 7 days a week
- 8am – 4.30pm

SALHN High Risk Foot Service update: education evening wrap up - a “total success”

The SALHN Interdisciplinary High-Risk Foot Team, with the support of Convatec, hosted their first education evening for GP’s, Practice Nurses and Community Nursing on Thursday 27 June at the Marion Hotel, with over 40 participants.

The event provided the opportunity to meet and greet members of the interdisciplinary care team and ask questions.

Speakers included Dr Phil Puckridge, SALHN Vascular Head of Unit, Dr Tilenka Thynne, Consultant Endocrinologist and Clinical Pharmacologist, and Sarah Christie, SALHN High Risk Foot Coordinator/ Senior Podiatrist.



Thank you to presenters Dr Phil Puckridge, Sarah Christie and Dr Tilenka Thynne.

Clinical tips

Some key take aways from the night included:

- Always examine the feet - shoes and socks off!
- When considering Diabetes Management also include Cardiovascular and Renal Management of those living with Diabetes.
- Time is tissue - early referral is key, wound duration is associated with increased risk of amputation and poorer outcomes and failure of wound healing.
- Toe pressures do not hold all the answers, they are useful as a screening tool. When an ulcer fails to show signs of healing within 4-6 weeks despite optimal management, we need to consider angiography and revascularisation irrespective of ABI of ABI's, toe pressures and arterial duplex.
- **Don't hesitate to send a picture and seek advice from the High-risk foot coordinator! - 0403 937 758**

The SALHN Interdisciplinary High Risk Foot service hopes to hold more events like this in the future so would welcome your feedback so we can tailor our sessions to meet your needs.

In the meantime if you would like any further information or education about the service please do not hesitate to contact the team directly:

SALHN High Risk Foot Service

Phone: (08) 8204 4884 or for urgent referrals contact the SALHN High Risk Foot Coordinator on 0403 937 758

Email: Health.SALHNPodiatry@sa.gov.au

Link to the SALHN Active Foot Disease Pathway and referral [here](#)

New Initiatives

Participants Needed! - Bridging the gap: a pilot project assessing efficacy and safety of a conscious sedation pathway for consumers with neurodevelopmental disability to access early health intervention.

Dr Jessica Smith, GP/Rehabilitation Physician (SALHN), is excited to share a pilot program for a multi-tiered sedation pathway, with the hope that this evidence will help establish formal pathways in the future for adults with complex disabilities in the community.

To be a part of this project, the team are looking for people:

- with an intellectual or developmental disability (such as autism)
- 18 years or older
- have not been able to have a blood test or immunisation.

The aim is to show safety and efficacy in the desensitisation and light sedation tiers (performed by a non-anaesthetist with additional training).

Please share the [flyer](#) with patients this may be of interest/helpful too.

Service updates

SALHN Hepatology Nurses

Meet SALHN's Hepatology Nurses, Rosalie and Rachel!

SALHN's Hepatology Nurses provide a link between public hospital specialist services and general practice, giving specialised support to general practitioners to assist in the management of patients with hepatitis B or hepatitis C, among other things.

The team are playing their part in the World Health Organisation Strategy to "Eliminate Hepatitis C by 2030".



They are keen to work closely with southern GPs to improve the screening of particularly vulnerable patients and offer a tailored/flexible approach to support GPs and patients with the treatment and management of Hepatitis C.

The Hepatology Nurses have supported southern GPs in various ways, from taking on the Hepatitis C management and treatment for patients to supporting GPs to manage and treat their patients and somewhere in between!

The Hepatology Nurses strongly encourage you to call their service (they are happy to take calls if you feel appropriate whilst your patient is in the consulting room to allow quick action linking up to their pharmacy resources etc).

- General information
- Advice and assistance to GPs with patient work-up
- Education and support for patients diagnosed with viral hepatitis
- Streamlining of referrals and supporting patients when attending tertiary treatment centres
- Support and guidance during shared care treatment management
- Support and information post treatment

Hepatology Nurses (SALHN)

Phone: [0466 777 876](tel:0466777876) or [0466 777 873](tel:0466777873)

Office: [\(08\) 8204 6324](tel:0882046324)

Fax: (08) 8204 3035

Links to resources: [Remote Consultation form](#) and [Decision making in Hepatitis C](#)

Omega-3 Test-and-Treat Program: reducing preterm births

Updated NHMRC Pregnancy Care guidelines advise omega-3 supplementation for pregnant women with low omega-3 levels to reduce their risk of prematurity.

The Omega-3 Test-and-Treat Program (O3TTP), a partnership between SAHMRI and SA Pathology, is integrated into the SA Maternal Serum Antenatal Screening (SAMSAS) program and offers omega-3 testing for women with singleton pregnancies under 20 weeks gestation and provides tailored supplementation advice based on the results.

- In South Australia (SA), 1 in 10 babies are born preterm.
- Over 18,000 women have participated in the O3TTP since 2021, with **around 17% showing low omega-3 levels**, potentially benefiting from supplementation to reduce preterm birth risk.
- Currently, **54% of Health Providers in the Southern Adelaide Local Health Network are referring women for SAMSAS with omega-3 testing**. About 80% of pregnant women need to engage with the program to successfully see reductions of prematurity in the community.

- **Consider referring your pregnant patients for omega-3 testing before 20 weeks gestation**
 - check the omega-3 box on the SAMSAS form or
 - write "omega-3 to SAMSAS" on any standard pathology form.
- Consider downloading GP practice software templates [here](#) (please scroll down).
- For more information, visit sahmri.org.au/information-for-health-professionals email omega3@sahmri.com or call 0438 273 155.



SALHN GP Integration Unit: updated email address

For consistency with our GP Integration Unit counterparts in other Local Health Networks, we have updated our email address to include "SALHN" hopefully this is clearer for all.

Please note that our previous email address will be redirected to our updated email address.

SALHN GP Integration Unit:

Updated email: health.salhngpintegrationunit@sa.gov.au (We endeavour to get back to you within 2 working days.)

Phone: 0401 152 366 (Monday-Wednesday).

Contact us

Please contact us at health.salhngpintegrationunit@sa.gov.au to be added/removed to our mailing list or with any other enquiries. We welcome your feedback.

Was this information useful? Vote using the buttons below.



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