



Keith and District Healthcare Newsletter

April 2023

Keith and District Healthcare Newsletter 5th edition

Background

The Keith and District Hospital (KDH) and the Limestone Coast Local Health Network have been working together to design an improved model of primary health and aged care services for the Keith community and surrounds.

In these newsletters, we will share with you the progress of transitioning the KDH into the public healthcare system. Aligning to our project timeline, we will highlight key milestones and achievements as well as issues and hurdles we face along the way. We will also provide you with further detail on key aspects of the model of care and answer frequently asked questions as we move forward with implementation.

Dr Remona Pungatan to provide monthly clinic in Keith



Dr Remona Pungatan has signed an agreement to provide GP services at Keith one day per month (first Saturday of the month) until 30 June 2023. During this period, the KDH Board and Limestone Coast Local Health Network will work together to develop a longer-term contract with Dr Pungatan.

During her monthly clinics in Keith, Dr Remona will see her aged care clients at Stirling Lodge and will allocate time to see patients in our consulting rooms, particularly those who struggle to visit her in Bordertown.

To make an appointment to see Dr Pungatan in Keith, please call Doctors at the Medical Hub on 0458 012 888.

Nurse Practitioner Trial

The KDH Transition team has been working hard to develop the Nurse Practitioner role who will work alongside and complement the Community Paramedic in the Keith Urgent Care Service.

As mentioned in our March edition, members of the team visited Noarlunga Hospital to learn more about the Nurse Practitioner role. They have been working with a Nurse Practitioner Agency to investigate trialing a Nurse Practitioner to provide services in Urgent Care, whilst SA Ambulance Service continue to recruit another 1.0FTE Community Paramedic to work alternate weeks to David Beal.

Further information regarding Nurse Practitioners can be accessed on the Australian College of Nurse Practitioners website at www.acnp.org.au.

24/7 support for stroke patients

Residents in Keith, Bordertown and surrounds who experience a stroke are being supported by a 24/7 service which provides faster diagnosis and treatment.

The SA Telestroke service enables rural and regional doctors, nurses and ambulance staff to call a neurologist at any time of day or night, seven days a week, for specialist advice. The next steps could involve referral to treatment, including a transfer to the Royal Adelaide Hospital.

Speeding up the time to diagnosis and treatment is essential in providing patients with the best chance of recovery.

Residents should continue to call triple zero if they think they are experiencing a medical emergency.

The SA Telestroke Service is administered by the Rural Support Service.

If you have not yet subscribed to the regular updates direct to your inbox, you can sign up to receive regular updates at <https://bit.ly/3DTIAiW>.

If you have any feedback or queries, feel free to get in touch with the project team at Health.LCLHNKeithTransitionProject@sa.gov.au

For more information

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Keith and District Hospital Transition Project

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