

Please circulate this information to staff in your area who do not have access to email and display on the appropriate notice boards. Thank you.



Issue 4 | 2 March 2022

Southern GP Matters

Dear GP Practice Teams,

This first newsletter for 2022 returns with a wide range of service updates. Again, thank you all for the great work you do for our Southern community in the midst of continuing challenges. [Please let us know](#) how we can support you further. Last but not least, a big thank you to the Practice Managers who kindly distribute these newsletters to your GPs, nurses and administrative staff. For those who may have missed them, earlier issues can be found in the [Southern GP Matters Newsletter](#) section on our website - www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/salhn gp.

Current initiatives

The GPIU is connected to the following initiatives, which are also listed on the [Current Initiatives](#) page on our website.

New standardised discharge summary format

Following GP feedback regarding the quality and content of discharge summaries, a project has been started in SALHN to facilitate clinical handover to GPs at discharge. This follows a successful implementation in CALHN and aims to promote succinct ISBAR summaries that consistently include key events, decisions and investigations; new or changed diagnoses; a complete list of a patient's medications to take following discharge including changes and rationale; items for GP follow-up and contact details.

We are keen to know if this new format works for you, as this will also help inform a state-wide improvement project on discharge summaries. [Please let us know](#) and thank you for your understanding while this work is progressing.

Clinical Prioritisation Criteria (CPC) consultation

The SA Health Outpatient (OP) Redesign Workstream continue to work on the development of South Australian Clinical Prioritisation Criteria (CPC) to support a state-wide redesign of our specialist outpatient services. The CPC are clinical decision-making support tools that assist in ensuring patients referred to public specialist OP services in SA are seen in order of clinical urgency and accepted based on standardised state-wide referral criteria.

The Department for Health and Wellbeing OP Redesign Team has been engaged with CPC Clinical Pathway Groups, with membership across medicine and surgery, nursing and allied health developing the proposed CPC. The consultation period for the first five clinical specialities have now closed:

- Cardiology
- Ear, Nose and Throat
- Orthopaedics
- Vascular

These CPC are currently being finalised and will soon be released on the [OP Redesign Project | Clinical Prioritisation Criteria](#) website.

Consultation on the Gastroenterology CPC will commence in early March 2022. For more information, go to the [OP Redesign Project | Clinical Prioritisation Criteria](#) website or email: health.cpc@sa.gov.au.

Flinders University abdominal separation (rectus diastasis) research - from pregnancy until one year after birth

Post-partum rectus diastasis is a poorly understood and often overlooked medical condition potentially affecting millions of Australian mothers and leaving them at risk of back pain, urinary incontinence and reduced quality of life. This research study aims to follow primiparous women from early pregnancy until 12-months post-partum to find out how often rectus diastasis occurs, what risk factors are associated with it, and if it impacts women's quality of life.

We are seeking assistance from GPs in linking Dr Siobhan Fitzpatrick (plastic surgery doctor at FMC) with suitable pregnant patients - i.e. primiparous women who are in early pregnancy (<15 weeks gestation) and who are planning to have their baby at Flinders Medical Centre.

For more information about the study, please contact Siobhan.Fitzpatrick@sa.gov.au or visit abdomicare.org/first-time-mums.

To refer suitable patients, please follow the QR code below.



Urgent and after-hours care

The following information has been updated on the [Urgent and after hours care](#) section of our website.

SALHN COVID Care Centre

The SALHN COVID Care Centre (CCC) has been established in FMC to provide face to face assessment and care for ambulatory adult patients, including pregnant patients, with COVID-19 who are not expected to require overnight admission. This includes adult patients with COVID related clinical concerns, and adult patients incidentally COVID positive with other unrelated clinical concerns, such as other illness, minor injury, or care coordination needs. The SALHN CCC also administers Monoclonal Antibody Infusions (MAB) to outpatients with confirmed COVID-19, which is intended to reduce the risk of severe illness.

The SALHN CCC is open 7 days a week, 10am-6pm and has access to pathology, radiology, ECGs, specialty team reviews, notably obstetrics, minor procedures and other SALHN services.

The SALHN CCC Duty GP Consultant can be reached on 0479 188 527 for clinical queries and referrals and the CCC Red Zone can be reached on 8204 5243.

Further details including referral pathways are available on the [CCC website](#).



New urgent and after-hours care options in Mt Barker and surrounding area

You may find the following options relevant to your patients if they reside in Mt Barker and surrounding area.

My Home Hospital: This Wellbeing SA service is available at no cost to eligible public patients 24 hours a day, 7 days a week across metropolitan Adelaide, Gawler and Mount Barker regions and their surrounds (Mt Barker area map and postcodes available [here](#)). Patients can be referred to My Home Hospital by their GP, medical specialist, a nurse practitioner, a paramedic or from an emergency department or hospital. If you have questions regarding eligibility or want to confirm any details of the service, you can call 1800 111 644 at any time, 24/7, 365 days a year, or [refer to the website](#).

Priority Care Centres (PCC): Provide community based healthcare and treatment for eligible patients with urgent but non-life threatening conditions, who would otherwise be seeking a service from an SA Health emergency department. The Mount Barker PCC is now available in addition to other locations, including the Marion PCC. Patients can now be referred by their GP or GP nurse (please see pathways [here](#)). Contact details are as follows:

Mount Barker Priority Care Centre

Open Monday to Friday (except public holidays), 10am-6pm

Phone: 0428 719 656

Summit Health Centre, 84 Wellington Road, Mount Barker

(the Summit Health Centre is located directly next door to the Mount Barker District Soldier's Memorial Hospital with established working relationships already in place across the sites).

Outpatient update

Face-to-face appointments increase for Outpatients

As part of SALHN's Recovery Planning, there will be a gradual increase in the number of face-to-face Outpatient appointments commencing from March 1.

Telephone (phone or video) will continue to be used as SALHN gradually increase face-to-face appointments to full capacity over time. Telehealth will remain an option for patients moving forward, as there are many reasons outside of COVID-19 that people may benefit from this mode of therapy.

All staff continue to practice, and encourage their patients to practice, good physical distancing where possible and hand hygiene measures to keep patients safe.

Patients are encouraged to arrive at the facility no more than 30 minutes before their appointment and to arrive at the clinic no more than 10 minutes before their appointment to avoid overcrowding.

The SALHN Volunteer Guide Service is also returning to FMC to assist with wayfinding and managing the increase in outpatients visiting our services.

Outpatient clinic list

Following the positive feedback received for the [new Outpatient clinic list](#), we will continue with this format and aim to keep the list continuously updated. The information below has been included in the current version of the list, which is also available from the [Outpatient section](#) of our website:

www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/salhnngp.

We are continuing to work with the Outpatient department and clinical teams on improvement projects. Thank you for your understanding while this work is progressing and [please get in touch](#) if there are any improvements you would like to see.

High Risk Foot Service update and SALHN 'Integrated Diabetes Foot Care Pathway for Active Foot Disease' Pathway

The SALHN High Risk Foot Service includes a High Risk Foot Coordinator, as well as a fortnightly Interdisciplinary Clinic comprising of specialist input from Podiatry, Endocrinology, Diabetes Educators, Vascular, Infectious Diseases, Dietetics and monthly access to Foot and Ankle Orthopaedics. It is also accredited as a "High Risk Foot service" by the National Association of Diabetes Centre (NADC).

The team has recently reviewed and updated the SALHN [Integrated Diabetes Foot Care Pathway for Active Foot Disease](#) Pathway to include the appropriate SALHN referral pathways and key contacts. This is based on a nationally consistent tool to assist health professionals to instigate timely referral to specialist services when required, for people living with active foot disease. The pathway can be found on the [High Risk Foot Clinic](#) page. In addition, the webpage also includes the [SALHN High Risk Foot Service Intake Referral Form](#) should you wish to use this PDF version (RTF templates are being developed).

If you need assistance with escalation of care for those living with foot ulcerations or diabetic foot disease, please do not hesitate to contact the High Risk Foot Coordinator on 0403 937 758 (Monday to Friday, 8.30am-4.30pm).

If you would like more details about the High Risk Foot Service or would like to organise an education session for your team, please contact the service on Health.SALHNPodiatry@sa.gov.au.

Inpatient update

Pregnant women - COVID-19 maternity care at Flinders Medical Centre

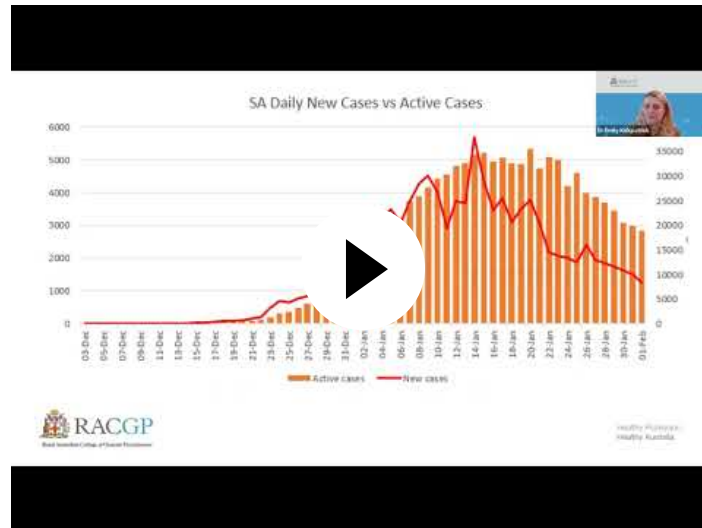
Flinders Medical Centre is currently the dedicated hospital to provide care to COVID-19 positive maternity patients from across the state should they need to attend hospital to birth or receive care.

The "Management of COVID-19 in Pregnancy in SA" protocol is available [here](#). This information was also discussed in recent webinars:

RACGP 'COVID Update for SA GPs'

Recorded February 7

(State-wide COVID19 Maternity Pathway starts from 27'10")



Obstetrics Shared Care Program 'Talking COVID 2022 in Pregnancy - GP Obstetric Shared Care Q&A'

Recorded February 16

(Video slides [here](#))



Secure Message Delivery (SMD) rollout update for ED and Inpatient Discharge summaries – please return your invitation!

The SA Health Secure Message Delivery (SMD) rollout is in full swing and has attracted positive feedback from GP practices and specialist sites who are receiving electronic Emergency Department and inpatient discharge summaries directly into their GP practice software.

433 practices have been activated for SMD. Invitations were emailed by SA Health in the last 4 weeks to the email address listed in the Health Provider Registry. SA Health would like to encourage the remaining 276 eligible sites to return their consent forms.

If you haven't yet received an invitation, please contact the SMD team via Health.SecureMessageDeliverySupport@sa.gov.au.

To learn more about SA Health's SMD rollout and how to become eligible for activation, [visit the SA Health website](#). Please note that some document types will still be delivered by fax, ShareFile or post until further IT developments are completed across all document types. SA Health is also working on the ability to receive electronic referrals from GPs however this is not available at this point in time.

The new Health Provider Registry (HPRy is live)!

The Health Provider Registry (HPRy) has been redeveloped as the previous system was over 15 years old. While the new system looks different, the purpose of the HPRy has not changed and is just as important now as it has been in the past. Please take the time to [visit the site](#) and read the information provided through the 'Policies and Information' button found on the homepage.

- **How do I find the new HPRy?**

The HPRy website link has not changed (www.healthproviders.com.au). If you find you are landing at the old HPRy, you will need to clear your browser cache or ask your IT team to clear the service cache.

- **When will I have login access to the HPRy?**

If you would like access to manage your practice data, please email support@healthproviders.com.au or call 8406 7797.

- **Who is your Practice Manager?**

In the coming months the HPRy will be asking for contact details for all Practice Managers. This will be an important communication tool for the HPRy going forward and will also provide immediate access for the Practice Managers to the HPRy. There will be a focused effort to gather this information along with the Health Identifier numbers for providers and practices. Please look out for communications asking for this information.

Education activities / events

SAPMEA Events

Neurology ECHO Program commenced February 2022

FORTNIGHTLY ON TUESDAYS (6:45pm-7:45pm via Zoom)

Next sessions:

- Thursday 3 March: Stroke and TIA
- Thursday 17 March: Movement Disorders and Parkinson's disease

Project ECHO®, a virtual peer-group clinical education, connects primary care practitioners with each other and to a panel of specialists from tertiary centres for regular video conferencing sessions. Project ECHO helps primary healthcare providers to manage complex patient presentations by sharing knowledge,

disseminating best practices, and supporting integrated care. Participation is free and enables to you earn CPD points.

Dr Adelaide Boylan, GP and Lecturer in Medicine at Adelaide University, will be facilitating this series joined by a panel of expert neurologists, nurse practitioners and consultants, clinical pharmacists and physiotherapists from across SA's tertiary neurology departments. See the full schedule [here](#).

Neurology ECHO aims to support the release of SA Health's Clinical Prioritisation Criteria. The CPCs are clinical decision-making support tools that assist in ensuring patients referred to public hospital outpatients are clinically categorised and accepted based on standardised state-wide clinical referral criteria.

This program is now at capacity and running a waitlist. To join the waitlist or to access resources from past sessions, please visit the [SAPMEA website](#).

- Session 1 - held on February 17: Headaches and Migraines

For more information on Project ECHO, please contact SAPMEA on echo@sapmea.asn.au.

AMPHeat Events

Paediatric update for General Practice 2022 - Full Booked

Please email Eleah Solagna on eleahs@ampheat.com.au to be added to the waitlist.

March 19 (8:30am-2:30pm)

Marion Hotel, 849 Marion Road, Mitchell Park

Link [here](#)

GPs are invited to join an expert line up of speakers from FMC for a day of case discussion, the chance to learn or improve technical skills and ask questions of these experts in the paediatric field. This will be a fantastic opportunity to build on your network of specialists who can assist you with advice in the future.

Skills stations will include:

- Asthma / Respiratory infections: use of devices, spirometry interpretation, case studies regarding preventer escalation, non-compliance in adolescence.
- Continence management: case studies regarding constipation, enuresis and SALHN / State-wide resources.
- Allergy / Immunology: anaphylaxis case study, immune deficiency case study.
- Child Protection: case studies / discussion focusing on neglect (medical, environmental) and / or inflicted injury.

Advanced Life Support and Paediatric Advanced Life Support

Multiple sessions, Venue@313, Royston Park

Link [here](#)

Challenging times call for TLC for staff: A self-care workshop with a difference

March 22 (12-2:30pm), Venue@313, Royston Park

Link [here](#)

SALHN Grand Rounds

Please watch the live stream using your Chrome browser (not Internet Explorer)

February 24: Neurological complications of COVID-19: A UK experience

Presented by Dr Anthony Koo, Neurology Consultant, Neurology Department, SALHN; Honorary Researcher, Department of Neurology, National hospital for Neurology & Neurosurgery, Queen Square, UK.



March 3: COVID Update: is this the beginning of the end?

Presented by Dr Chuan Lim, Clinical Head, Virology, Serology & Molecular, SA Pathology; Dr Santhosh Daniel, Senior Consultant, Infectious Diseases, SALHN; and Professor David Gordon, Head, Microbiology & Infectious Diseases, SA Pathology, SALHN.

Link will be available following the event.

Contact Us

Please contact us at [Health.GPIntegrationUnit.sa.gov.au](mailto:Health.GPIntegrationUnit@sa.gov.au) to be added/removed to our mailing list or with any other enquiries. We welcome your feedback.

We acknowledge the Kurna people are the traditional custodians of the Adelaide Plains and pay respects to Elders past, present and future. I recognise and respect their cultural heritage, beliefs and relationship with the land. I acknowledge that they are of continuing importance to the Kurna people living today.

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