

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



Issue 9 | 22 March 2023

Southern GP Matters

Dear GP Practice Teams

Please find below our first newsletter for 2023. We are keen to continue to sharing updates, tools and information that will assist our southern GP community this year. If you have a particular area of interest or topic you would like us to include information on in an upcoming newsletter, please let us know. We appreciate hearing from you! We look forward to continuing our work together and thank you for the ongoing care you provide to our southern community.

Thank you also to the Practice Managers for distributing these newsletters to your GPs, nurses and admin staff.

Dr Mai, Emma and Emily

Team update

Welcome Emily O'Callaghan

Welcome to Emily O'Callaghan, who joined the SALHN GP Integration Unit team in January 2023 as the GP Integration Support Officer.

Emily has undertaken various roles within the SALHN Trainee Medical Officer space and is excited to gain a greater understanding of all things General Practice and play a part in supporting you.

If you would like to provide direct feedback to us, we are more than happy to visit you in your practice, or please feel free to contact us via phone: 0401 152 366 or email: Health.GPIntegrationUnit@sa.gov.au.



Photo: SALHN GP Integration Unit Team visiting Reynella Medical Centre recently.

Thank you to the Reynella Medical Centre for inviting us to visit your practice in January. It was a pleasure to see your clinic, meet the team and hear your helpful feedback and suggestions.

Useful contact details

GP Liaison Officer (in Flinders Medical Centre (FMC) Medical Records) for clinical information requests (e.g., discharge summaries, clinic letters phone)

- Phone: 08 8204 6040
- Fax: 08 8204 3964
- Email: healthfmcmedicalrecordsgpliaison@sa.gov.au

GP Referral Hotline for administrative information on referrals (e.g. confirming a referral has been received, triaged, or appointed - Please see further information below and please wait 48 hours after sending the referral before calling, unless the referral is urgent).

- Phone: 08 8204 7886 between 10am-12pm on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays
- Alternatively contact the relevant clinic – please see Clinic list [here](#)

Clinical teams for clinical enquiries

Page via FMC Switch, phone 08 8204 5511.

Accessing patient results online and by phone

- **Pathology:** [SA Pathology iPath](#) or phone: 08 8222 3000 (Option 1)
 - To set up an iPath account or to update your current profile, please contact the SA Pathology Marketing team on 08 8222 3355 or email SAPathologyMarketing@sa.gov.au. Further information [here](#).
 - *Note: This includes the ability to search for patients results that you did not request and were not copied in to, including results available in the public hospital system.*
- **Imaging – Flinders Medical Centre / Repat:** [SA Medical Imaging SAMIView](#) or phone: 08 7117 2555 (FMC), phone: 08 7117 2500 (Repat)

- To access SAMIView, please complete the [External referrer Access Form](#) and send it to SAMreferrersupport@sa.gov.au.
- *Note: "Medical Specialist – optional additional access" can be requested (2nd page of the form) to have unlimited access to patient diagnostic image and reports for patients you provide care for.*
- Further information [here](#)
- **Imaging - Noarlunga Health Services:** [Jones Radiology Online / inteleConnect](#) or phone: 08 8309 2222 (Option 2)
 - To apply for an account, please see [here](#). Further information [here](#).

Current Initiatives

New WCHN GP Liaison Integration Unit newsletter

Dr Emily Roxburgh and Dr Helen Parry, GPs at WCHN GP Liaison and Integration Unit (WCHN GPLIU) are continuously working to improve communication, collaboration and clinical handover between the Women's and Children's Hospital, WCHN and the community. Please consider joining their [WCHN GP contact list](#) to receive information that is relevant to for GPs, Practice Nurses, Aboriginal Health Workers and GP Teams.

Please head to the [WCHN GP Hub](#) to access their newsletters.

The [first WCHN GP News edition](#) for March 23 includes information on:

- WCHN transitioning to eReferrals in 2023
- New Website Information: [WCH Outpatients](#) and [GP Hub](#)
- CaFHS working with general practice to support babies, children and families
- Clinical Advice and Urgent Telehealth Care from CAVUCS and COVIDKids
- WCHN GP [Contact list](#)

Seeking Expressions of Interest: Barriers and Facilitators to Uptake of Lung Cancer Assessment During the COVID-19 Pandemic

Flinders University researchers are seeking expressions of interest for a project which aims to explore health professionals' perspectives on what they see as barriers to lung cancer assessment service access and referral pathways. This study aims to interview General Practitioners, and Health Care Workers who work in a role that supports lung cancer assessment. Participation involves a 15-minute interview, and compensation for time is offered.

Please contact Teferi Gebru via email: gebr0033@flinders.edu.au if you are interested, or for further information.

Reminder: register for 'Enhancing physical healthcare in mental illness' event

The 'Enhancing physical healthcare in mental illness' event is next Monday, 27 March 2023 at 6:30pm-8:30pm, either in person (ANMF Ridleyton) or online.

It will be presented by: A/Prof Scott Clark, Head of Psychiatry at Adelaide University and Consultant Psychiatrist at Western Community Mental Health Service and Dr Jackie Yeoh, General Practitioner and GP Integration Officer and Consultant CALHN.

Please ensure you register at SAPMEA education by end of day Thursday 23 March to attend the event in person, due to catering deadlines.

[Register here](#)

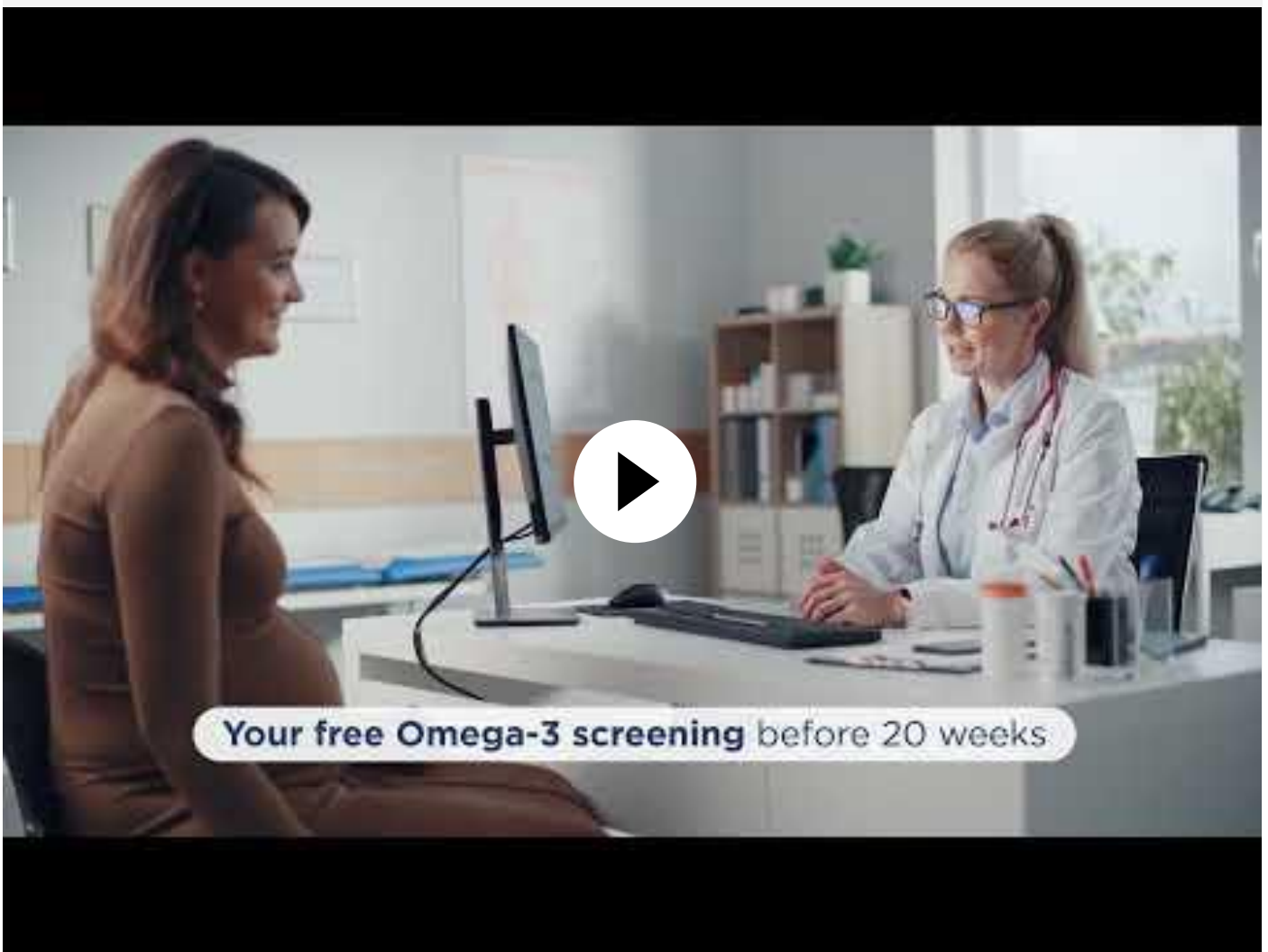
Omega-3 testing in pregnancy

More than 8,500 pregnant women have now opted in for the omega-3 test. SAHMRI's most recent data demonstrates approximately 15% have a low omega-3 status.

Of all SAMSAS orders in the Southern Adelaide LHN catchment, around 32% are now including an omega-3 test (vs. 36% statewide).

A new digital template to integrate the SAMSAS and Omega-3 Test request form into your practice software is now available, making it even easier for patients to be involved in the test-and-treat program! Users of Best Practice, Medical Director and ZedMed can download templates [here](#).

In addition to supporting clinicians to refer for the omega-3 test with ease, a new consumer facing advertising campaign will provide pregnant families with information about the test.



If you would like more information or are interested in a practice update, get in touch via email omega3@sahmri.com.

Please click [here](#) to download the SA Pathology SAMSAS form and [here](#) for more information about the project. This includes information for requesting providers.

GP Discharge summary survey

The analysis of the 150 responses to the survey of GP Perspectives on Discharge Summaries is still underway. We thank the general practice community for their engagement with the survey and will provide more detail on the responses as soon as possible.

GP Respiratory Clinics

Please note, the final operational extension of General Practice Respiratory Clinics (GPRC - Reynella, Adelaide Central, North Eastern, and Athelstone) under the current model finished on 28 February 2023.

From March 2023, the Commonwealth will implement a new GPRC Panel model for activation during health emergencies.

Outpatient update

eReferrals

SA Health to implement state-wide e-Referrals

SA Health is leveraging the recent rollout of Secure Message Delivery to implement e-Referrals and Clinical Prioritisation Criteria (CPC – see below) across South Australia.

The state-wide solution is aimed at improving access to quality healthcare for all South Australians by standardising how referrals are managed across the state. Adopting an integrated and coordinated approach will reduce patient wait times and clinical risks, connecting patients to the healthcare pathway that will best meet their care needs.

e-Referrals will be introduced in multiple phases, with the first phase utilising the existing HealthLink Secure Messaging platform for sending and triaging external referrals into SA Health. **Phase 1 is scheduled to start in June 2023**, with the first Local Health Networks (LHN) including Southern Adelaide LHN, Central Adelaide LHN, Northern Adelaide LHN, Women's and Children's Health Network and Riverland Mallee Coorong LHN. If you do not have Secure Messaging in your practice, please contact the SA Health Secure message Delivery team at health.securemessagedeliverysupport@sa.gov.au.

RACGP “Beyond the Fax: E-referrals are Coming!” Webinar – Tuesday 4 April, 7-8pm

To learn more about the eReferral program **please join the [webinar hosted by RACGP-SA](#)** with presentations by the WCHN GP Liaison and Integration Unit and the e-Referral Program Director from Digital Health SA. Non-members are welcome, please email RACGP-SA at sa.events@racgp.org.au to register.

[RACGP members register here](#)

Outpatient 'Referral hotline' for GP Practice teams

Want to confirm a referral has been received or follow up on its status?

GP practices can now **phone: 08 8204 7886 between 10am-12pm on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays** if they would like to check if a referral has been received, triaged or appointed (Please wait 48 hours after sending the referral before calling, unless the referral is urgent).

The aim of this hotline is to make it easier for you to access referral and appointment information if needed, this is not a clinical advice line. This follows an earlier pilot phase and is intended to continue until eReferrals stage 1 commences, which will provide GPs with improved visibility of their referrals.

If you require clinical documentation (e.g. clinic letter or discharge summary), the best contact still remains the GP Liaison team in FMC Medical Records: phone (08) 8204 6040, fax (08) 8204 3964 or email healthfmcmedicalrecordsgpliaison@sa.gov.au

Changes to the Lipid clinic

Referrals for lipid management are now being managed by the Cardiology Outpatient department, previously managed by the Endocrinology department.

Please consider addressing referrals for Lipid queries directly to the FMC Cardiology clinic, for attention of Dr Sam Lehman, to minimise any processing delays (Fax: 08 8177 1589).

- A Referral guideline for the “Familial Hypercholesterolaemia Clinic” is available [here](#).
- Alternatively, [SALHN Referral guidelines](#) are available via the [Outpatient section](#) of the GPIU webpage (<http://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/salhnpgp>).

Outpatient resources

- [SALHN Outpatient Clinics list](#) (No recent updates have been made)
- Please note the paediatric cardiology clinic fax number (08) 8161 6088 was updated on [the relevant webpage](#) to align with the clinic list information.

Additional Clinical Support

Voluntary Assisted Dying Update

The [Voluntary Assisted Dying Act 2021](#) (the Act) commenced on Tuesday 31 January 2023.

All South Australians are entitled to high-quality end of life care, regardless of their medical diagnosis, age, culture, background, beliefs or where they live. The introduction of safe, accessible, and compassionate voluntary assisted dying gives eligible South Australians with a terminal illness another choice at the end of life. The process enables eligible people to voluntarily access and self-administer, or in some circumstances have a medical practitioner administer, a medication that will cause their death, in accordance with the steps and process set out in the Act.

For further information and resources please contact the [SA VAD Care Navigator Service](#) via email: Health.VADCareNavigators@sa.gov.au or phone: 0403 087 390 during business hours, or visit the [SA Health website](#). The SALHN VAD Liaison is also available on 0403 087 391 during business hours. If you would like further information or education on Voluntary Assisted Dying, please feel free to email the [SA VAD Care Navigator Service](#) (email: Health.VADCareNavigators@sa.gov.au).

[Health practitioner resources for voluntary assisted dying | SA Health](#)



VOLUNTARY ASSISTED DYING IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA



Useful Information about Voluntary Assisted Dying in South Australia

- Voluntary assisted dying is now available to eligible South Australians (commenced Tuesday 31 January 2023).
- Voluntary assisted dying enables eligible people to voluntarily access and self-administer, or in some circumstances have a medical practitioner administer, a medication that will cause their death, in accordance with the steps and process set out in the Voluntary Assisted Dying Act 2021.
- The Act includes many safeguards to ensure only eligible people access voluntary assisted dying and to protect vulnerable people from coercion, abuse and exploitation.
- Health practitioners must not initiate a discussion about voluntary assisted dying. Once a patient has clearly requested information about voluntary assisted dying, a health practitioner may provide information to them.
- Medical practitioners who want to participate in the voluntary assisted dying process must meet the eligibility requirements under the Act, register through the VAD Clinical Portal and complete the online Mandatory Voluntary Assisted Dying Training for Medical Practitioners.
- The Act permits registered health practitioners to choose the extent of their involvement in voluntary assisted dying, taking into consideration if they have a conscientious objection to voluntary assisted dying. Registered health practitioners who choose not to participate in a discussion about voluntary assisted dying are encouraged be aware of their professional obligation not to impede or obstruct access to voluntary assisted dying. If a registered health practitioner chooses not to participate in a discussion about voluntary assisted dying, it is recommended that they tell the patient where to find more information or refer the patient to someone who can help.

DASSA provide a telephone and email service for health professionals who are providing treatment of alcohol and other drug related presentations. For more information about the [Drug and Alcohol Clinical Advisory Service \(DACAS\)](#) and how to contact the team see below:

- Phone: (08) 7087 1742 from 8.30 am to 10.00 pm 7 days/week including public holidays
- or e-mail your enquiry to: HealthDACASEnquiries@sa.gov.au.

Out of these hours, medically urgent calls from a GP will always receive a response. More information, resources and factsheets can be found on the [DACAS web page](#).

Further to this is the [Know Your Options](#) website available to health professionals, individuals and families or friends who are caring for people with alcohol and other drug problems. More specifically you may find the '[Factsheets for GPs](#)' page valuable.

Support for people experiencing or at risk of homelessness

The Toward Home Alliance offer a range of services for people experiencing or at risk of homelessness across Adelaide CBD, inner and outer southern metro area and the Adelaide Hills.

Toward Home's services include; providing emergency, short-term accommodation and support to access and maintain sustainable housing, case management, assistance with physical health and wellbeing needs and referrals to other specialist services.

Toward Home provides services in the South from Baptist Care SA's Southern Pathways Centre at 34 Beach Road, Christies Beach. GPs and Practice Nurses can refer patients to the service and access further information by contacting 1800 809 273 (9am – 5pm, Monday to Friday) or email towardhome@towardhome.org.au

Hear how Toward Home supported long-term rough sleeper, Stan to access secure housing and improve his health – [Stan's Story](#)

Education activities/events

SAPMEA events

2023 Palliative Care ECHO



Palliative Care ECHO

Fortnightly on Wednesdays

6.30 - 7.45pm via Zoom

February 22: Complex symptoms in advanced malignant illness

March 8: Mental Health at EOL

March 22: Emergencies in Palliative Care

April 5: Symptom Management & establishing goals of care in end stage organ failure

May 3: Agitation, Delirium and Terminal Sedation

May 17: Complex Bereavement

Meet the expert panel:

- Dr Susan Haynes, Palliative Care Consultant
- Dr Sonia Schutz, General Practitioner
- Lisa MacDonald, Palliative Care nurse
- Paul Tait, Palliative Care pharmacist
- Plus, a host of guest panelists including Dr Peter Allcroft (Southern Adelaide Palliative Care Services), Dr Anas Safri, Dr Emma Manifold, Dr Olivia Rygorowicz (SAPS), Dr Teena Silakong & Dr Karin Myhill (SAPS).

Participants will receive 1 CPD hour under the Reviewing Performance category with RACGP/ACRRM for each session attended. GPs presenting a case for discussion, will receive 1 CPD hour under the Measuring Outcomes category (to be self-claimed). The Statement of Attendance and CPD hours will be provided at the end of the ECHO series.

[Register here](#)

[2023 Advance Dementia ECHO](#)



Advanced Dementia ECHO

Fortnightly on Tuesdays

6:30pm - 7:30pm via Zoom

- February 28** Dementia and memory assessment in primary care and aged care
- March 14** Dementia prevention and addressing modifiable risks
- March 28** Critical care conversations with family and people living with advanced dementia
- April 18** Advanced care planning for people living with dementia
- May 9** Care planning in complex patient presentations and situations
- May 23** Management of neuropsychiatric symptoms of dementia
- June 6** End of life care in advanced dementia

Meet the expert panel:

- Dr Chloe Furst, co-HOU, Department of Geriatrics and Rehabilitation Medicine, RAH
- Dr Teena Silakong, NAPS
- A/Prof Timothy To, HOU SAPS
- Dr Adelaide Boylan, General Practitioner
- Dr Stephanie Daly, General Practitioner
- Luke Shepperd, Specialist Dementia Care Unit Nurse Consultant.

[Register here](#)

Enhancing physical healthcare in mental illness

Monday, 27 March 2023 at 6:30pm-8:30pm – In person (ANMF Ridleyton) or online

Presented by: A/Prof Scott Clark, Head of Psychiatry at Adelaide University & Consultant Psychiatrist at Western Community Mental Health Service and Dr Jackie Yeoh, General Practitioner and GP Integration Officer and Consultant CALHN.

[Register here](#)

Feeding and Sleeping Problems in Children Webinar

Thursday, 30 March 2023 at 7pm-8:30pm

Presented by: Dr Brian Symon, GP with more than 40 years' experience working with patients and babies experiencing sleep, feeding, growth and/or behavioural issues.

[Register here](#)

Influenza Update

Wednesday 22 March 6pm – 9pm - Morphettville Racecourse, 79 Morphett Road, Morphettville – link [here](#)

Exploring Self-Assessment Tools

Tuesday 28 March, 6pm-9pm – Marion Hotel, Mitchell Park – link [here](#)

Urgent Care Skills Workshop (Paediatric Emergencies and Common Presentations)

Thursday 30 March, 6pm-9pm – Upnext, Royston Park – link [here](#)

CPR

Tuesday 18 April, 6pm-9pm, Upnext, 313 Payneham Road, Royston Park, \$123 - link [here](#)

Aboriginal Cultural Sensitivity and Respect Training

Saturday 6 May, 9am-5pm, Marion Hotel, 849 Marion Road, Mitchell Park – link [here](#)

SALHN Grand Rounds

Recordings of SALHN Grand Rounds are available on the Flinders University [website](#). Please watch the live stream using your Chrome browser.

23 February: **General Medicine – A clinical service conundrum “From a glorious past, a burnt out present and what’s the future”**, Presented by Dr Pravin Shetty, Head of General Medicine, General Physician SALHN

2 March: **“Update on Research and the Flinders MD Program from the College of Medicine and Public Health”**, Presented by Professor Jonathan Craig, Vice President and Executive Dean, Professor Damien Keating, FHMRI Deputy Director, Professor Alison Jones, Dean (Education) and Doctor Michael Wozniak, Senior Lecturer and Director Medical Program

9 March: **“From grief to hope: the journey of organ donation”**, Presented by Dr Lisa Pereira, ICU Consultant, SALHN, Ms Jo Brooks, Donation Specialist Nurse, ICCU SALHN, Dr Stephanie McMahon, ICU Trainee ICCU SALHN

16 March: **“Thickened Heart Muscle: more than hypertension”**, Presented by Professor Joseph Selvanayagam, Consultant Cardiologist, SALHN, Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine, FUSA, Director of Cardiac Imaging, SALHN and Director Cardiology Research and Clinical Trials, SALHN

23 March: **“A headache primer: please don’t give patients opioids”**, Presented by: Dr YiZhong Zhuang – Neurology Consultant, Neurology and Stroke Department, SALHN, Dr Alexander Wright – Neurology Registrar, Neurology Department, SALHN, Dr Adam Cooper – Neurology Registrar, Neurology Department, SALHN

Contact us

Please contact us at Health.GPIntegrationUnit@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.



*We recognise and respect their cultural heritage, beliefs and relationship with the land.
We acknowledge that they are of continuing importance to the Kaurna people living today.*

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SALHN GP Integration Unit

10 Milham Street

Oaklands Park 5046

Phone: 0401 152 366

Email: Health.GPIntegrationUnit@sa.gov.au

www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/SALHNGP



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Southern Adelaide
Local Health Network