



Issue 3 – 9 December 2021

Southern GP matters

Dear GP Practice Teams

This is our last newsletter for 2021 and we would like to thank our ongoing and new readers for joining us. We would also like to extend a special thanks to Practice Managers for kindly distributing these newsletters to your GPs, nurses and admin 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/salhnngp.

Our newsletters focus on topics relevant to GPs in the Southern catchment area, with other news (such as COVID-19 updates) available through your usual channels. We hope our GPIU newsletters help improve how we work together for our patients and we look forward to your feedback and suggestions for content.

We wish you a safe and enjoyable end of the year and we are looking forward to resuming our newsletters in early 2022. Again, thank you for all the wonderful work you do for our Southern community in these challenging times.

Dr Mai and Janet, the SALHN GP Integration Unit (GPIU)

Team update

The GP Integration Unit will be closed between Friday 24 December and 2 January 2022. As usual, routine requests such as requests for discharge summaries, previous investigations or outpatient clinic letters will be addressed by the GP Liaison Officer in Medical Records at Flinders Medical Centre (FMC) (Ph. 08 8204 6040, Fax. 08 8204 3964). The Noarlunga Health Service Medical Records can be contacted via Ph. 08 8384 9500, Fax. 08 8384 9410.

Current initiatives

The initiatives below are also listed on the [Current initiatives](#) page on our website.

Updated ‘SALHN Outpatient clinic list’

Following feedback regarding the navigation of our outpatient clinics, [this new resource](#) has been developed to include updated clinic contact details (fax and phone number for clerical enquiries), as well as direct hyperlinks to the relevant clinic pages. The clinics are also now organised in sections for ease of navigation (e.g. “Medical”, “Surgical”, “Mental health”, “Paediatrics”, “Women’s health”, “Allied Health”). [Please let us know](#) if this new format works for you, or if you feel that information is

missing. Based on your feedback, this document will be reviewed and made available as part of SALHN's outpatient resources.

We are continuing to work with the Outpatient department and clinical teams on improvement projects in the Outpatient domain. This includes progressively incorporating each clinic's referral information in their respective clinic page, such as the [Hypertension clinic](#) whose [Triage guideline](#) and [Referral guideline](#) were recently updated. Thank you for your understanding while this work is progressing.

Clinical Prioritisation Criteria (CPC) consultation

The CPC are clinical decision-making support tools that assist in ensuring patients referred to public specialist outpatient services in South Australia are seen in order of clinical urgency and accepted based on standardised state-wide referral criteria. The CPC for the first five clinical specialities have been developed in partnership between the Department for Health and Wellbeing, specialists, and GPs for use by referring practitioners:

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

The CPC can be accessed [here](#) and are now open for consultation. Feedback is welcomed via response to health.cpc@sa.gov.au until Friday, 7 January 2022.

Foot Stomp - Increasing access to proactive diabetic foot programs for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people living in the southern catchment

This project aims to increase access to culturally responsive preventative and proactive diabetic foot programs for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people living in the southern catchment. Foot Stomp is funded by SAHMRI via a Commonwealth grant (finishing June 2022) and aims to build workforce capacity, optimise organisational processes and engage with community and key stakeholders by:

- > providing free foot screening training opportunities to any GP practice staff/teams who may be interested in upskilling or refreshing their skills
- > seeking expressions of interest to join the Foot Stomp reference group to oversee the project and provide advice and input regarding the project's objectives, strategies and evaluation methods
- > mapping the patient journey for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander patients with diabetic foot complications (pending ethics approval).

If your practice is interested in hearing more regarding any of the above opportunities or would like information regarding Foot Stomp, please [contact the GPIU](#) and we will link you with the Project Lead.

Dermatology survey: Stage IA Melanoma Follow up - Exploring GP's skillset and level of confidence in undertaking surveillance skin checks

Dr Thomas Mathew (GP and Principal Investigator) in collaboration with the RAH Dermatology Unit are seeking GP and GP registrar participation to complete a short survey (< 2 minutes). This survey explores general practitioner's skillset and level of confidence in undertaking melanoma surveillance skin checks. This is part of a study which is considering models of shared care between dermatology units and GPs, and looks at making recommendations on melanoma surveillance programs in SA.

Thank you for following this [link](#) or scanning the QR code below to access the survey page where additional information is provided.



Community chats wrap up and SALHN Annual Public meeting

Over the last eight weeks, SALHN held a series of activities called ‘Community Chats’ to launch SALHN’s Community Engagement Strategy 2021-24. Community Chats encouraged the southern community to explore the future of their healthcare across SALHN and other community sites, as well as via online channels. SALHN partnered with the Caring Futures Institute, SA Ambulance Service and Onkaparinga Council to present and host some of the Community Chats during the series. Some activities explored the future of healthcare with a focus on digital transformation, while others simply encouraged people to have a chat or share their ideas. The main themes were:

- > Health data sharing with GPs and health services
- > Transforming information into a steady stream of meaningful knowledge
- > Specialist prevention women’s health service for counselling and trauma recovery
- > Better wayfinding
- > More local services
- > Community advocates for people and those experiencing disadvantage
- > Improved hospital facilities and more beds.

Some of the themes were addressed at SALHN’s Annual Public Meeting, which you can watch [here](#) and SALHN will continue using the [SALHN Online Community Hub on Your SAY](#). SALHN will continue to create opportunities to engage with our community.

Thank you for being involved with Community Chats and helping SALHN connect with the community to build long-term relationships, share information, plan, and build people’s capacity to shape our health care system for the benefit of our community.

Urgent and after-hours care

Urgent and after-hours care options in the Southern area

The [following resource](#) was developed to provide easier access to the urgent and after-care options accessible from the Southern area. This is the updated version of the summary presented at the recent RACGP webinar on ‘Urgent and acute care’ and is also available on the [“Urgent and after hours care” section](#) of our website along with further information. As these documents are continuously updated, [please let us know](#) if there are any improvements you would like to see.

Southern Adelaide – Urgent and After Hours care options

Specialist	Mental Health (MH)	General	Specialist (Continued)
Child and Adolescent Mental Health (CAMHS) - 24 hours triage - Main Unit, 9am - 5pm - Video call services via Zoom	Walk-in After Hours Mental Health Services - 24/7 triage - Monday - Friday: 9pm - 10pm - 24/7 triage for people with ID/Alcohol - 24/7 triage for Noarlunga GP Hub	Emergency Services - Adults + children over 12 yrs - 24/7 triage, 24/7 - Home based - 161 1000 (111 call)	Specialist (Continued) Medical Outpatients Care - 24/7 triage, 24/7 - 24/7 triage, 24/7 - 24/7 triage, 24/7
Specialist (Continued) Subacute - Over 16 yrs - 24/7 triage, 24/7 - 24/7 triage (24/7 triage)	Specialist (Continued) Subacute - Adults + children - 24/7 triage, 24/7 - 24/7 triage, 24/7	Specialist (Continued) Emergency Services - Adults + children - 24/7 triage, 24/7 - 24/7 triage, 24/7	Specialist (Continued) Emergency Services - 24/7 triage, 24/7 - 24/7 triage, 24/7

Please note the following updates:

- > [Walk-in after hours Mental Health Noarlunga service](#): operating hours are Monday-Friday: 5pm-10pm (people > 16 yo can arrive until 8.45pm).

- > [Marion PCC](#): patient eligibility for the PCC can be considered by both GPs and Practice Nurse (PN) as per the [updated pathway](#). Please note that the Marion PCC will be closed from 20 December 2021 to 2 January 2022.

Inpatient update

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

Flinders Medical Centre is 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. SALHN recently launched a [dedicated state-wide webpage](#) with further information for women and their families. The [website](#) includes two fact sheets that you are welcome to utilise:

- > [Factsheet providing general information for COVID-19 positive maternity patients attending FMC](#)
- > [Factsheet providing information for COVID-19 positive women needing to birth at FMC](#)

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

The SA Health SMD rollout is progressing well and we have received very positive feedback from GP practices that have joined the SMD roll-out and are now receiving discharge summaries directly into their GP practice software (e.g. Medical Director, Best Practice, ZedMed, Communicare). Over 320 sites have been activated to date and a further 350+ sites have been invited and are ready to be activated once they return their invitation.

- > Reminder SMD invitations were sent by SA Health in the last 3 weeks. These are titled “SA Health: Secure Messaging - Address confirmation required” and were sent to the email address listed in the [Health Provider Registry](#).
- > If you haven’t yet returned your invitation, we encourage you to send your confirmation back.
- > If you haven’t yet received an invitation, we encourage you to contact the SMD team at Health.SecureMessageDeliverySupport@sa.gov.au

To learn more about Secure Messaging at SA Health and how to become eligible for activation, please see [here](#). 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.

New functionalities in Health Provider Registry (HPRy)

The [Health Provider Registry](#) (HPRy) is a secure listing of health services, practices, providers and specialists. It is the authoritative source of contact information for SA Health Electronic Medical Records systems and is critical to the transfer of patient information between hospitals, practices and specialists. The HPRy technology is being upgraded to provide [modern and faster service provision](#). We thank you for ensuring that clinicians’ details including current practice are correctly recorded in the [Health Provider Registry](#) regardless of your preferred communication method (e.g. SMD, fax, ShareFile, etc). Ideally, this should be done as soon as possible each time a doctor (e.g. GP, GP registrar, other doctor, other specialist) or allied health professional starts or finishes at a practice.

Outpatient update

Updated ‘Hypertension’ Triage and Referral guidelines

SALHN is continuing to progressively update outpatient guidelines and the Hypertension Clinic has recently updated their [Triage](#) and [Referral guidelines](#). They are available along with SALHN’s other Triage and Referral guidelines as a quick link from the [“Outpatient specialist clinics” section](#) of the GPIU website or through the short URL: www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/salhnoutpatients.

Flinders Centre for Anxiety and Related Disorders (CARD)

CARD has continued to receive a high number of referrals to the service over the past two years and as a result the wait time for an appointment has increased.

The CARD team is working extremely hard to reduce this wait time as soon as possible; however, it is important for referrers to be aware of this. If more urgent input is needed for your patient, please ensure you consider alternative services. If referring to CARD, please use the [referral form](#) available [online](#). This form helps ensure that referral criteria are met and also includes a map of the Southern Catchment area (As a reminder, the SALHN CARD outpatient service provides care to patients living in the Southern area only).

Education activities / events

SAPMEA events

> **Neurology ECHO Program coming in 2022 (Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes)**

SAPMEA will be launching the Neurology ECHO Network in February 2022. Dr Adelaide Boylan, GP and Lecturer in Medicine at Adelaide Uni, will be facilitating this 7-session series joined by an esteemed panel of expert neurologists, nurse practitioners and consultants, clinical pharmacists and physiotherapists. We are excited to see our FMC Neurologists Prof Mark Slee and Dr YiZhong Zhuang, as well as FMC Neurology and Stroke Clinical Pharmacist Mirjana Culibrik be a part of the panel!

Join the ECHO movement to help you manage complex patient presentations by sharing knowledge, disseminating best practices, supporting integrated care, and being a part of a community of practice.

[Register](#) to be a part of Neuro ECHO! Not heard of Project ECHO® before? [Visit SAPMEA's website](#) to learn more about the global ECHO™ movement.

> **'Alcohol and Other Drugs (AOD)' ECHO Network – Session resources**

Session resources for earlier AOD ECHO sessions are also available [here](#):

- > Session 1: Management of alcohol withdrawal in general practice
- > Session 2: Benzodiazepine and associated withdrawal
- > Session 3: Cannabis
- > Session 4: Methamphetamine
- > Session 5: Opioids / MATOD and chronic pain
- > Session 6: Alcohol pharmacotherapies
- > Session 7: Assessing fitness to drive

> **Past webinar recordings** are available on [SAPMEA's website](#), including:

- > 11th November: [Dementia Demystified](#)
- > 4th November: [Pride of Your Practice \(LGBTIQ\)](#)
- > 14th August: [Working with Military and Emergency Services and their families](#)
- > 8th July: [Managing mental health in military, veterans & emergency responders](#)
- > 22nd June: [CVD risk assessment](#)

AMPHeat events

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

Thursday 16 December, 12pm-2.30pm

Face to face event at AMPHeat, Venue@313, Royston Park

Suitable for: GPs, Practice Managers, Allied Health Professionals, Hospital Doctors, Junior Doctors, Nurses, Admin Staff

For further information and registration: <https://events.ampheat.com.au/challenging-times-tlc-december-2021>

> **Mental Health First Aid**

Thursday 20 & Friday 21 January 2022, 8.45am-4pm each day

Face to face event at AMPHeat, Venue@313, Royston Park

For further information and registration: <https://events.ampheat.com.au/mental-health-first-aid-january-2022>

> **SAVE THE DATE! Flinders & AMPHeat Paediatric Update for GPs**

Saturday, 18 March 2022, 8.30m-4pm

Face to face event at Marion Hotel

Express interest to find out more events@ampheat.com.au

SALHN Grand Rounds

Please contact the GPIU for access to the video links.

Please note that 'Medical Grand Rounds are now complete for 2021. Thank you for your participation and viewing attendance during 2021. Grand Rounds recommence on 3 March 2022.

- > 28 October: **'COVID-19 and skin'**, presented by Dr Lil Ellis, Dr Holly Sexton, Dr Karolina Kerkemeyer – Dermatology Department, SALHN, and Prof Liz Klein – Fulbright scholar
- > 4 November: **Professor Philip Aylward 'celebrating 4 decades of advancing cardiovascular care'**, Chaired by: Professor Derek Chew including various speakers
- > 11 November: **'Testosterone and type 2 diabetes in men'**, Presented by: Professor Gary Wittert – Professor of Medicine & Director FFCMH, University of Adelaide and SAHMRI
- > 18 November: **Basic Physician Trainee Clinical Audit – 'PE Causing Syncope'**, Presented by Dr Kyle Ratcliff & Dr Kerrie Tessier
FOLLOWED BY: **'Voluntary Assisted Dying: SALHN Implementation'**, Presented by Dr Peter Allcroft – Senior Staff Specialist Palliative Care, SALHN, Clinical Lead State-wide Palliative Care Clinical Network, Commission on Excellence and Innovation in Health SA
- > 25 November: **'Neuromyelitis Optica Spectrum Disorders (NMOSD): an update'**, Presented by Dr Saxon Douglass, Neurology Registrar, Neurology Department, SALHN and Dr Lesley-Ann Hall, Neurology Consultant, Neurology Department, SALHN

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.

I 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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