



Issue 1 – 30 September 2021

Southern GP matters

Dear GP Practice Teams

Following feedback we have received from GPs, practice nurses, practice managers and administrative staff, we are now starting this newsletter in order to keep your practice teams regularly updated and involved in activities relevant to the Southern Adelaide Local Health Network (SALHN). We will be using this email format as information becomes available and these newsletters will also be made available on our website - www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/salhnqp.

We hope these newsletters help improve how we work together for our patients. Please send us your feedback on this first edition as well as your suggestions for content; and forward this update to any colleagues who may not have received it.

Thank you for all the great work you do for our Southern community!

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

Team update

Janet Berkshire (RN) has joined our team last month as the GPIU Nurse Consultant. Janet is working 0.6 FTE (Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays) and is bringing a wealth of knowledge from her Outpatient experience. Dr Mai Duong (GP) is also working 0.6 FTE (Monday mornings, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Friday mornings). For those of you who know Anne Lonergan, Anne is currently on a well-deserved Long Service Leave until March 2022 and we thank her warmly for everything she has done for the GPIU since its inception.

Current initiatives

We would love to hear your feedback about how SALHN can improve how we work with GPs and how we engage with GPs. The initiatives below are also listed on the [Current initiatives](#) page on our website. If you would like to provide input or would like to contribute to the following initiatives, please contact us by email or phone. We will also gladly arrange a **face to face practice visit or online meeting** if that suits you better. Our contact details are available on our website at www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/salhnqp.

SALHN Outpatient - general update and GP consultation

We have received a number of requests for information around how to best navigate outpatient services at SALHN and how to source information about a specific referral. SALHN has been experiencing a significant increase in the number of referrals received by our outpatient department, so we appreciate your patience. We are working extremely hard to continually improve

our processes for patients, their families and GP colleagues. This includes looking at the referral management process and how information about referrals can be more accessible to you and our patients. Please [let us know](#) if you have any suggestions or preferences around how this information is made available to you.

Neurosurgery waitlist project

SALHN, in partnership with Flinders University is undertaking a research project regarding new models of care for people on the neurosurgery waitlist at FMC. As part of this initiative, the research team are planning two Stakeholder Advisory workshops and are looking for two GPs to participate in both sessions. The GPs will be reimbursed for their time and contribution.

The proposed workshop dates are:

- > Workshop 1: mid-November 2021, late afternoon/early evening, and
- > Workshop 2: mid-January 2022, late afternoon/early evening

Please [contact the GPIU](#) if you would like to participate and we will link you in with the project team.

Community chats – We want your feedback on the future of healthcare and the digital health innovations of tomorrow

SALHN wants to partner with its community, including General Practice teams, to become a destination for world-class treatment, research and training. SALHN wants to engage in a meaningful way and create more opportunities for our community to help plan, deliver, and evaluate our health care and systems.

You are invited to the 'Community Chats' series which encourages the southern community to explore the future of their healthcare and digital inclusion over eight weeks across health care sites in the south, and in the community, as well as via online channels. SALHN is organising events in November and wants to know what type of event you would want. It could be a workshop, listening post, information session – you tell us! Vote here <https://yoursay.sa.gov.au/community-chats>

Community Chats starts October 7 and will finish on November 25 with our Annual Public Meeting. Tell your patients, come along and meet SALHN staff and Board. More information [here](#), and list of events [here](#).

Inpatient update

Hip arthroplasty at Noarlunga

As part of the Southern Health Expansion Plan (SHEP), hip arthroplasty surgery has now commenced at Noarlunga Hospital. This builds on from the commencement of knee arthroplasty and the establishment of a 24 bed General Medical Unit last year and will assist in reducing wait times for arthroplasty across the network. We expect that approximately 250 hip procedures will be provided each year at Noarlunga Hospital, in addition to the 300 knee procedures, and patients are now able to recover from their surgery closer to home. The referral pathway for hip arthroplasty remains unchanged (Fax: 8384 9711).

Phase 3 Sunrise (Electronic Medication records) activation

Inpatient services in FMC have moved to Sunrise Electronic Medical Records since July 28 2021. If your practice is using PKI email as your preferred communication method, you might have noted that correspondence from Sunrise is now faxed to you (instead of using PKI as this is not compatible with Sunrise). An option is to email the [Health Provider registry](#) to update your communication details to "ShareFile (email)". Please contact us if you would like further information.

Outpatient update

New GEM@Home Service (Geriatric Evaluation and Management @ Home):

As of Monday 27 September 2021, the Community Geriatric Service (CGS) at SALHN has

transitioned to become the new GEM@Home service. Patients who are 65 years and older (50 years or older for Aboriginal people), or less than 65 years with a formal diagnosis of young onset neurocognitive disorder, can be referred to this service.

The service has an outreach (Community Program) component, which provides goal orientated care and community service planning for up to 12 weeks. All GP referrals for this service should now be sent to the GEM@Home outreach program (Community Program), with referrals information available on the [GEM@Home page](#) on the SALHN Website. The referral form is currently only available as PDF, but RTF templates are being considered.

The service also has an inreach (Intensive Program) component with referrals accepted from SALHN inpatient areas only. The inreach service will provide daily goal orientated care for people (including on weekends) for up to 14 days.

New CARE Service (Complex And RestorativE Service)

People 65 years and older (or 50 years and older for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders) who call 000 for help and are clinically appropriate, can now be referred to the new CARE (Complex and RestorativE) service for same day non-emergency hospital level care, delivered either in their homes or at the CARE centre based at the Repat Health Precinct. The CARE service accepts referrals from SAAS between 8:30 to 3pm Monday to Friday and has been specifically designed to improve care for older patients by providing alternative treatment pathways to Emergency Departments (ED) where emergency care is not required. CARE is delivered in partnership with SA Ambulance Service and is staffed by specialist geriatric, nursing and allied health staff. SAAS and SALHN clinicians will collaboratively triage patients, offering them the services of the CARE team if appropriate. Imaging is available through the South Australian Medical Imaging service at the Repat Health Precinct.

For more information please visit the CARE page on the [SALHN Website](#).

Mobile COVID Vaccination team at the SALHN Aboriginal Family Clinics

A Mobile COVID vaccination team is present on Tuesdays at the Aboriginal Family Clinics for our Aboriginal community. Patients do not have to be a registered client of the Aboriginal Family Clinic.

- > For anyone who is 16 years old and over: walk-ins are welcome but bookings are preferred if possible (please call 8384 9577).
- > For children 12-15 years old: booking needs to be made with the chosen Aboriginal Family Clinic on 8384 9577 (Noarlunga Centre) and 8179 5942 (Clovelly Park). Children need to attend with a guardian for consenting purposes.
- > Please bring Medicare card.

Dates and locations as follows:

- > **Noarlunga Aboriginal Family Clinic** (near Noarlunga GP Plus, Unit 12/25 Alexander Kelly Drive, Noarlunga Centre)
Tuesday 9.30am – 2.45pm: October 5, October 12
- > **Clovelly Park Aboriginal Family Clinic** (13 Wingfield Street Clovelly Park)
Tuesday 9.30am – 2.45pm: October 19

COVID enquiries

- > GPs can get non-urgent general and vaccine advice via : Health.COVID-19GPLiaison@sa.gov.au. GPs, Nurses, Practice Managers and Non-GP specialists can also request to be added to the COVID GP Update mailing list via this email address.
- > For more urgent advice, please call the Communicable Disease Control Branch (CDCB) Clinical Advisory Service 8.30 am – 5.00 pm Monday to Friday on 1300 232 272.
- > After hours urgent requests for advice will be directed to the CDCB doctors on-call service.

Reminder - Changes to SALHN chronic disease services referral pathways (Respiratory, diabetes, Weight management, Early Childhood and Family services)

A number of chronic disease services at SALHN started their new referral pathways and fax numbers on September 13:

- > [Respiratory Services](#) (SALHN GP Plus Respiratory Service, SALHN Pulmonary Rehabilitation Service)
- > [Diabetes Services](#) (SALHN Out of Hospital Diabetes Service)
- > [Weight Management Services](#) (SALHN GP Plus Bariatric Surgery Service)
- > [Early Childhood and Family Services](#) (SALHN Allied Health Early Childhood and Family Service)

The updated service pages include a clinical description of these services, eligibility criteria, referral information, PDF and RTF referral templates for Medical Director, should your GP practice wish to use them (RTF templates for Best Practice and Zedmed will be added in the near future). If you could please include the specified referral information in your referral letter, this would be greatly appreciated as this assists with facilitating appropriate triaging for your referral.

These changes have been included in the updated [SALHN Outpatient clinic list](#), also accessible through the [Outpatient specialist clinics](#) quick links on our website. We are working on further updates to this list and welcome your feedback and suggestions to make it more useable for you.

Education activities / events

World sepsis day

Several events were held to coincide with World Sepsis Day, an opportunity to raise awareness about sepsis and the important role of clinicians in the early recognition, treatment and post discharge support for people at risk or diagnosed with sepsis.

Please contact the GPIU for access to the video links.

- > **Q&A Panel – Let’s talk Sepsis**
The session featured short presentations on sepsis related topics, followed by a Q&A section with a panel of key subject leaders.
- > **FMC Grand Round – ‘Stopping Sepsis: a National Action Plan in Action’**
Presented by: Pr Simon Finfer AO, Professorial Fellow, The George Institute for Global Health, Adjunct Pr University of NSW, Director, Australian Sepsis Network
- > **Hear from a sepsis survivor**
Watch this [short video](#) to hear from sepsis survivor and advocate Fiona as she shares her personal journey and why it is important to spread the word about sepsis.
- > **Online resource:** [SA Health - sepsis](#)

Please contact us at Health.GPIntegrationUnit@sa.gov.au to be added/removed to our mailing list or with any other enquiries.

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

This e-mail may contain confidential information, which also may be legally privileged. Only the intended recipient(s) may access, use, distribute or copy this e-mail. If this e-mail is received in error, please inform the sender by return e-mail and delete the original. If there are doubts about the validity of this message, please contact the sender by telephone. It is the recipient's responsibility to check the e-mail and any attached files for viruses.

SALHN GP Integration Unit

16 Alexander Kelly Drive

Noarlunga SA 5168

Phone (08) 87117 0737

Email Health.GPIntegrationUnit@sa.gov.au

www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/SALHNGP



Health
Southern Adelaide
Local Health Network