

This week:

[2012 gmGPn Events](#)

[Changes to MBS - 1 January 2012](#)

[Is Your Practice E-Health Ready?](#)

[Bowel Cancer Screening](#)

[Health Benefits of Work](#)

[Southern Health Electronic Patient Letters](#)

[Antenatal Survey](#)

[Changes to ATAPS](#)

[PEP Research Study](#)

[DVA Coordinated Veteran's Care Program](#)

[Other Events](#)

2012 gmGPn Events:

MBS Update—7 February 2012 Venue: Clayton Community Centre

Sleep Apnoea—28 February 2012 Venue: Yarra Yarra GC

PNIP Training—February 2012 Venue: IEMML Nunawading

Bowel Cancer Screening Training— 29 February 2012 Venue: TBA

gmGPn Contact

Chris Edmonds

Chris Edmonds

Sarah Carpenter

Chris Edmonds

Changes to MBS - 1 January 2012

There will be a new MBS from 1 January 2012. The only changes of significance are the deletion of the practice nurse items #10993-#10999 (immunisation, wound management and Pap tests). The Practice Nurse Incentive Payments (PNIP) scheme will be kicking off from 1 Jan of course. You can view the new MBS at www.health.gov.au/internet/mbsonline/publishing.nsf/Content/Downloads-201201 (page18 for a list of changes)

Review of GP mental health treatment plans

You will recall the introduction of 4 new GP mental health treatment plan items on 1 November 2011, replacing the 2 older item numbers. It has been reported that Medicare is rejecting claims for GP mental health treatment plan review #2712 when it is claimed in relation to mental health treatment plans put in place on or before 31 October 2011. This was an oversight by the Commonwealth. To remedy this, they have introduced a new GP mental health treatment plan review item #2719 which will apply for mental health treatment plans that existed on or before 31 October 2011.

Is Your Practice E-Health Ready?

As a part of the health and hospitals network reform, the federal government is introducing a Personally Controlled Electronic Health Record (PCEHR) system. Health Identifiers provide the mechanism to enable patients and health providers to be uniquely identified, which is the first step towards delivering an E-Health system.

The GP Network has dedicated staff who will assist with the initial signing up and liaison with Medicare to obtain your individual number. For more information or to express interest in registering for a Healthcare Provider Identifier-Organisation (HPI-O) number contact Sarah Carpenter 9569 5077.

Bowel Cancer Screening Program (BCSP)

The Victorian Department of Health is providing funding to improve the uptake of bowel screening in general practice using Division support and the use of PEN Clinical Audit Tool and the Primary Care Sidebar.

This program, the Bowel Cancer Screening Program, aims to increase the GP awareness of bowel cancer and to achieve a sustained increase in ordering of FOBT for GP practice patients from age 50 onwards in accordance with NH&MRC and RACGP guidelines.

Your participation in this program will provide your practice with IT consultant support and training, and the opportunity to set additional prompts on the sidebar. For further enquiries or if you would like to participate in the program contact Chris Edmonds at GMGN on 9569 5077.

Health benefits of returning to work – CPD February 9th 2012

Getting back to work can be a crucial part of an injured patient's rehabilitation; with a positive approach and the right support, injured workers can recover and return to a normal life. Interactive seminar to improve the understanding of the complexities involved in the treatment of a patient with a compensable health condition, improve knowledge of the TAC and WorkSafe compensation systems; improve management of patients with a compensable health condition. Thursday 9th February evening CPD. For more information, **Contact: Narelle Quinn, Program Officer, Inner East Melbourne Medicare Local. Tel. 8878 3755 nquinn@iemml.org.au**

For inclusion in the Friday Facts: Contact Irene Stavrou on 9569 5077 or email: admin@gmgn.org.au. Articles must be submitted by 10AM Thursdays. If you are not receiving this via email but would like to, please send an email to Irene at admin@gmgn.org.au

Electronic Delivery of Southern Health Outpatient Letters – Now Available

Southern Health can now deliver Outpatient letters to GPs electronically, this service is provided free of charge to practices. Outpatient letters are sent to practices from OzeScribe, Southern Health's Transcription Services contractors. The letters are sent to GPs using Global Health's ReferralNet secure message delivery system. For practices that do not currently have ReferralNet this can be installed free of charge. If your practice has ReferralNet installed you should already be receiving your letters electronically from Southern Health.

If you would like to begin using this free service, please visit www.ozescribe.com.au/ozepost to register. For any additional information, please contact Ozescribe on 1300 727 423 or Global Health on 9765 0664.

National Antenatal Access Survey

A National Antenatal Access Survey is being conducted to assess the level of access to antenatal services across Australia, and identify factors that cause or are associated with poor access and how they may be addressed. The survey can be completed any time before 23 February 2012 by Clicking on the following link <https://rea.msvcs.kpmg.com/ggt/Entry/QuestionnaireEntry.aspx?QuestionnaireId=8303> and using the following username: **antenatal@survey.com** and password: **antenatal (information and survey was emailed to GPs during the week)**.

ATAPS — Change of local referral and funding arrangements for the Access to Psychological Services (ATAPS) program

From 1 January 2012, the newly formed Inner East Melbourne Medicare Local (IEMML) will assume responsibility for the funding and administration of the ATAPS program for GPs in the Greater Monash GP Network catchment. As such, from 1 January any new ATAPS referrals, or referrals for a patient to have a second six ATAPS sessions, will need to go to Inner East Melbourne Medicare Local. ATAPS continues to be targeted at people on low income. The referral process will be familiar.

GPs will choose a provider from IEMML's online Directory and will call IEMML's Clinical Services Intake on 8878 3755 to be issued with a voucher number for 6 ATAPS sessions.

IEMML is working to accept ATAPS providers who have been receiving ATAPS referrals from GPs in the Greater Monash GP Network catchment onto the IEMML provider Directory.

GPs who have any queries about these new arrangements should call Peter Gartside, Mental Health Program Coordinator, Inner East Melbourne Medicare Local, on 8878 3718.

Preventive Evidence into Practice (PEP) research study

Practice are being sought to participate in this NHMRC study which has a focus on the standards of preventive care across the **5As** for smoking, nutrition, alcohol, physical activity, weight, blood pressure, cholesterol, diabetes, CVD risk and kidney disease. The intervention will involve training, clinical audit and practice visits to support improved preventive care. \$500 will be available to compensate participating practices.

Contact: Jill Kelly or Martin Wilkinson, Inner East Melbourne Medicare Local. Tel. 8878 3755

DVA Coordinated Veteran's Care program – Practice visits

Practice visits are available to provide information on this program which commenced in May 2011. DVA is writing to patients and GPs informing them of the eligibility for coordinated care – veterans, war widows war widowers and dependants who are Gold Card holders and at risk of being admitted to hospital. GPs and/or their nurses are remunerated for providing care coordination for patients who have complex care needs. On-line training modules are available at www.cvcprogram.net.au

Contact: Lesley Pugh, Practice Nurse Consultant, Inner East Melbourne Medicare Local. Tel. 8878 3755
lpugh@iemml.org.au

Other Upcoming Events

AAPM PD Day—Industrial Relations Workshop

Friday 24 February 1—5pm at the Novotel 285 Springvale Rd Glen Waverley P: 1300 651 334 or email: vic@aapm.org.au

Practice Nurse Incentive Program (PNIP) What does it mean for you?

D: Thursday 2 February **T:** 7.00pm-8.30pm (light supper) **V:** Inner East Melbourne Medicare Local 12/317-321 Whitehorse Road Nunawading (Parking available in service lane) **P:** 8878 3755 for registration flyer.

Orientation Program for nurses new to General practice

Thursday 22 & Friday 23 March 2012 And Thursday 19 April & Friday 20 April 2012

For more information or to register contact Kate Russo 03 9341 5265 k.russo@gpv.org.au

Multidisciplinary Palliative Care Short Courses

For registration or further information contact Sandie Luu palliativecare@mccp.unimelb.edu.au or visit <http://www.mccp.unimelb.edu.au/courses/award-courses/specialist-certificate/palliative-care>