



From the Chair

Innovation - the name of the game.

As I have said in previous newsletters, the “Times They Are A Changing”. GPs can still work in the traditional way of a GP seeing patients with a receptionist doing the administration but for how much longer?

Some practices have established “General Practices” where the GP is still the main decision maker and coordinator of care but works closely with a team of Nurses (Chronic Disease Management, Aged Care, Mental Health, Midwives and Child Health), Allied Health (Podiatrist, Diabetic Educator, Dietician, Physiotherapist, Psychologist, Social Worker, OT) as well as linking with the local Radiologist and Pathologist. I have worked in a practice like this and found it so much more fulfilling for me as a GP with much better management of patients. The secret is for all professionals to actively engage with each

Education

Event

'ADHD - Have we been getting it wrong all these years?'

6.00pm,
Wednesday, 29th
April

North Lakes Day
Hospital

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other, not just all to be in the same building.

I think this is the path RACGP are heading with their Primary Health Care Funding model where payment will depend on the complexity of the patient's condition, with a particular General Practice being the Medical home for the patient. As with everything, the difficulty is in the detail of how this will be set up and funded. Sometimes it is better to look at what is being done well and build on this.

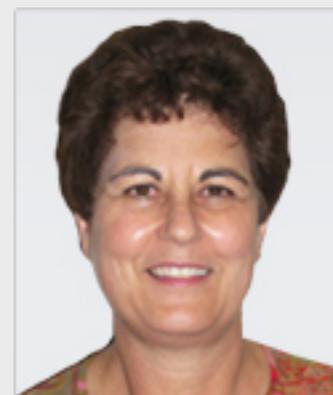
The Primary Health Networks have been announced. In our area, The Metro North Brisbane Medicare Local will start as the Metro North Brisbane PHN in July. There is still uncertainty about the role of the PHN but it is thought a primary role will be working with the hospital and health service to stop avoidable hospital admissions. As Dr Henry Bryan (GPpartners Director) says, patients don't want to go to hospital either. Private Health Insurers don't want patients going to hospital unnecessarily either, as it costs them money, too! The elephant in the room, though, is most of the frequent flyers to hospital aren't there primarily for their medical condition but more their social situation. General Practice can offer solutions but we need to be consulted early in the discussions and funded appropriately.

Corporatisation of General Practice is increasing. The statistics of the aging GP are catching up with us. GPs have built up successful practices and now

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GPpartners Board Members



Dr Jayne Ingham,
Chair



A/Prof Glynn Kelly

with retirement beckoning are looking for buyers. The younger GPs are often not in a financial situation to make an offer and although I am often told the younger GP doesn't want the responsibility of a General Practice, I have met some who are interested. The Corporates are buying practices. What concerns me is the vertical integration of General Practice, Pharmacy, Radiology and Pathology and the responsibility of the company to the shareholders. The Private Health Insurers are also becoming involved in the business process. Government would also find it easier to work with the major owners of General Practices. This may not be a negative if GPs and their organisations are involved early to influence best outcomes for the doctors, health teams and the patient.

Innovation often comes from the Grass Roots where the problems are identified and solutions found. Two members of our board are attending an Innovation Workshop at QUT in the Cube. We expect to be working on a project by the end of the session and maybe with some venture capital. Who knows where we will end up!!

GPpartners is looking for Innovators. Any applicants, please send their details to contact@gppartners.com.au

Jayne Ingham
Chair GPpartners



Dr Deborah Sambo



Dr Henry Bryan

GPpartners' Education Session

'ADHD - Have we been getting it wrong all these years?'

6.00pm, Wednesday 29th April

6 RACGP Category 2 points

Speaker: Dr David McIntosh, Specialist Paediatric ENT Surgeon

Topics:

1. ADHD - Have we been getting it wrong all these years?
2. ENT - What you need to know before you get sued.

When: 6.00pm, Wednesday 29th April

Where: North Lakes Day Hospital, 7 Endeavour Blvd, North Lakes

[Register now for 'ADHD & ENT Ed' - 29th Apr](#)

[Invitation for 'ADHD & ENT Ed' - 29th Apr](#)



New Holy Spirit Northside Breast Health Centre

The new Breast Health Centre will further enhance the delivery of cancer care services at Holy Spirit Private Hospital at Chermside.

Daniele Doyle, General Manager Holy Spirit Northside Private Hospital said, “The goal of the Breast Health Centre is to provide a ‘one stop shop’ for women requiring breast screening, diagnosis, interventions, consultation, treatment and care.”

Radiology services utilising the latest innovations in 3D digital mammography and ultrasound technology will be integrated within the Breast Health Centre – for ease of consultation and treatment.

A multidisciplinary team working within the Centre will include radiologists, breast physicians, radiographers and sonographers expert in breast diagnostics and screening.

The Breast Health Centre will also accommodate a team of health professionals to provide expert counselling and consultation services for patients diagnosed with breast cancer.

To find out more:

<https://hsnph.org.au/wps/wcm/connect/hsnph/home/our-services/clinical-services/breast-health-centre>





Kids Health Information App

Many GPs will be familiar with the Melbourne Royal Children's' Hospital Kids Health Info (Family information materials) web site. It covers most common and important paediatric conditions:

<http://www.rch.org.au/kidsinfo/#tab-All>

The Education Resource Centre have made the site into an app.

Families can download the entire set of health information fact sheets to their phone or tablet (iOS or Android)

They can then be viewed very quickly and offline

Any changes will be automatically updated via the usual app update process on their phone.

It is free

You can see it here:

<http://www.rch.org.au/khiapp>

Statewide Influenza Surveillance Report

You may be interested in the Queensland Health report on influenza. It covers the period 1 January - 19 April.

You can find it at:

<http://www.health.qld.gov.au/ph/documents/cdb/influenza-qld-150419.pdf>

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