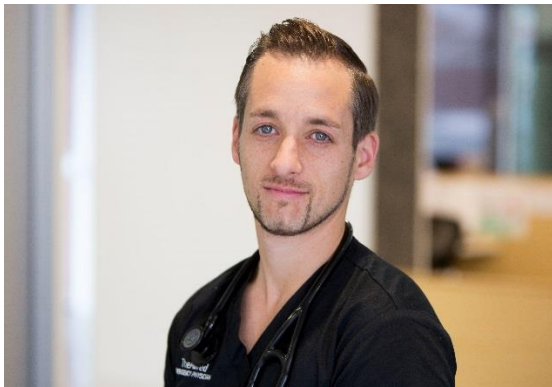


Welcome to the February edition of Alfred Health GP news

Please contact us with any queries on 9076 2620, or email us at gp.liaison@alfred.org.au

Top tips

This month's practice tip is from Dr Rohan Laging, Emergency Physician at The Alfred Emergency Department.



Differentiating between a peripheral and central cause for acute vestibular syndrome can be difficult. Central causes include stroke, demyelination, mass lesions and encephalitis, so the distinction between peripheral and central cause is critical. The HINTS exam ([Kattah et al.](#)) can assist the astute clinician. A CT scan is insensitive (around 20% sensitivity) for posterior fossa lesions, so an MRI is the reference investigation.

Improvements in Alfred Emergency discharge communication

We are very pleased to announce that The Alfred Emergency Department have now commenced sending discharge summaries directly to GPs, in addition to providing a copy to the patient. We are grateful for your feedback and support which has greatly assisted in implementing this improvement to facilitate continuity of patient care.

Integrated care community of practice events



The next series of Integrated Care Communities of Practice (CoP) will focus on **Social Isolation and 'Social Prescribing'** with a panel discussion. There will also be time for wider audience discussion around challenges and wins, and an opportunity to network with health and social providers in the region.

As always this series of free events, held across the Alfred Health catchment area, are open to all health and social providers including general practice, council services, community services, community health, hospitals, dental services, mental health services, social services, social groups,

exercise groups, home services, community pharmacies etc. Breakfast will be provided at the morning session and light refreshments at the evening session.

If you are unfamiliar with social prescribing, you may like to view this YouTube video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HkBorjikoJk>

Details of the Community of Practice events are below. Please register via the link so we have accurate numbers for catering.

Stonnington, Port Phillip CoP Breakfast

Date: 25 Feb 2020

Time: 7am - 8.30am (breakfast)

Venue: The Vincent Albert Park, 111 Victoria Avenue, Albert Park

Register for catering purposes (nil cost): <https://www.trybooking.com/BGDQF>

Bayside Glen Eira CoP After hours

Date: 3 March 2020

Time: 6pm-8pm

Venue: Caulfield RSL

Register for catering purposes (nil cost): <https://www.trybooking.com/BGDQN>

Kingston CoP Breakfast

Date: 24th March 2020

Time: 7am-8.30am

Venue: TBC

Register for catering purposes (nil cost): <https://www.trybooking.com/BGDQW>

We are pleased to see many have already registered for the events, and we look forward to seeing you there!

The Alfred Allergy Symposium

The Allergy, Asthma & Clinical Immunology Service at The Alfred is the largest adult service of its kind in Australia, accepting referrals from across Victoria. The service is holding an Allergy Symposium for General Practitioners and General Physicians who manage patients with allergic conditions on **Saturday 21st March 2020, 8:30am-4:00pm.**

The day will take the form of a workshop with a major focus on interactive case discussions of important allergic presentations, developed with GP input. Topics include Upper airway allergy, asthma, drug allergy, food allergy, paediatric allergy, anaphylaxis & venom allergy, allergic skin conditions, occupational & environmental allergy.

Registration is \$132, and includes morning tea, lunch and course booklet.
The RACGP has accredited 40 category one points to the course.

Date: Saturday 21st March 2020

Venue: Rendezvous Hotel, 328 Flinders Street, Melbourne

To register and for further information go to <https://www.trybooking.com/BHIZG>

New Alfred Health Referral Guidelines – Gastroenterology and Neurology

Updated referral guidelines are now available for [Gastroenterology](#) and [Neurology](#) on the Alfred Health website, which incorporate the [Statewide Referral Criteria](#).

Novel Coronavirus updates

For up to date information about managing suspected novel coronavirus cases, go to the Victorian Department of Health and Human Services website: <https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/novelcoronavirus>

GP Liaison Service at Alfred Health – we are here to help!



Our GP Liaison team –Tracey O’Connell (Victorian Integrated Care Model Project Manager/GP Liaison), Mandi Van Beveren (GP Liaison - EReferral), Dr Josie Samers (GP Consultant) and Amelia Matlock (eReferral Lead) – are here to assist you in navigating Alfred Health. Whether it’s a missing discharge summary, assistance with getting an outpatient appointment or suggestions on how we can do things better, we are here to help. Our office is attended from Monday to Friday; phone 9076 2620 or email us gp.liaison@alfred.org.au.

If you do not wish to receive this newsletter, please email us at gp.liaison@alfred.org.au