

# Alfred Health GP News

**Happy New Year!  
Welcome to the January edition  
of Alfred Health GP news.**

Contact us for any queries on  
9076 2620, or email us at [gp.liaison@alfred.org.au](mailto:gp.liaison@alfred.org.au)

## **Geriatrics Clinic Telehealth Service**

Do you have patients who find it hard to attend Geriatrician appointments at Caulfield Hospital?

Geriatricians from Caulfield Hospital are using telehealth to improve access to specialist care for frail older adults living in Aged Care Facilities.

The Geriatrics Clinic Telehealth Service includes:

- A comprehensive face to face assessment in person at the facility or Caulfield Hospital
- A detailed holistic plan addressing patient problems
- Telehealth review appointments with patients, their families, GPs and care providers

Telehealth appointments are just like any other outpatient appointment, but patients/residents speak to their specialist via a video call, using a computer or device in a virtual consultation room. GPs, Practice Nurses and Aged Care Facility staff are encouraged to participate and support consultations (MBS Telehealth Item numbers are available for GPs.)

Benefits of telehealth include:

- Saves travel time and expenses
- Avoids missed appointments due to mobility and/or transport problems
- Allows collaboration between care providers
- Facilitates timely coordinated care for patients/residents



To refer, fax a referral to the Geriatrics Clinic: 9076 6435. If a comprehensive geriatric assessment is required, please state on the referral. All consults with Geriatricians are bulk billed. There is no cost to patients. For referral enquiries, please call 9076 6800.

For enquiries regarding telehealth, contact Helen Mertin, Project Officer Ph: 9076 6424 (Mon, Tues, Thurs) E: [h.mertin@alfred.org.au](mailto:h.mertin@alfred.org.au).

The Geriatrics Clinic Telehealth Service is supported by funding from the Victorian Government.

## **The Alfred Allergy Symposium 2019**

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 23rd March 2019** from 8.30am – 4pm, at the AMREP Education Centre, Alfred Hospital, Melbourne. 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.

The symposium will be convened by Associate Professor Mark Hew and Dr Eve Denton, with presentations by Dr Julian Bosco, Dr Ryan Hoy, Dr Sam Mehr, Dr Joy Lee, Dr Celia Zubrinich, Dr Rob Puy.

Early bird registration is \$88 (register by 31st January 2019) or \$132 from February 2019 onwards.

The RACGP has accredited 40 category one points to the course. To qualify for the points, participants must complete the predisposing and reinforcing activities and the feedback form. Details of these will be sent upon registration.

To register and for further information go to <https://www.trybooking.com/book/event?eid=453924>

## **Relocation of outpatient clinics**

Due to pipe works being undertaken at The Alfred Centre, some outpatient clinics will be relocating between December 21<sup>st</sup> and April 2019. Patients will be guided to the location of their appointment when they arrive at The Alfred, but outpatient services will otherwise be continuing as usual.

## **General Cardiology Clinic at Caulfield Hospital**

Dr Roshan Prakash has now commenced a General Cardiology Clinic at Caulfield Hospital. The clinic is a bulk-billed specialist service supported by the Alfred Hospital Heart Centre.

Timely appointments are available for patients with a variety of cardiac conditions including chest pain syndromes, valvular heart disease, heart failure, arrhythmias (AF, SVT, palpitations), post-MI, and post-cardiac surgery patients.

General Cardiology clinic at Caulfield Hospital is held fortnightly on alternate Monday mornings. To refer, fax a referral to 9076 6435, or go to [The Alfred Cardiology](#) webpage.

**GP Liaison Service at Alfred Health – we're here to help!**

Our GP Liaison team –Tracey O’Connell (GP Liaison), Amelia Matlock (eReferral Lead), Dr Josie Samers (GP Consultant) and Lucy Bassett (VICM Project Manager) – 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](mailto:gp.liaison@alfred.org.au).

We welcome your suggestions and feedback.

*If you do not wish to receive this newsletter please email us at [gp.liaison@alfred.org.au](mailto:gp.liaison@alfred.org.au).*