

Welcome to the March edition of Alfred Health GP news

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

COVID-19 update

In addition to screening provided by GPs, twelve screening clinics are now open across Victoria. These services are located at Royal Melbourne Hospital, The Alfred, Austin Hospital, Box Hill Hospital, Monash Clayton, Northern Hospital, Sunshine Hospital, St Vincent's Hospital Melbourne, Peninsula Health - Frankston, Wonthaggi Hospital, Albury Wodonga and Barwon Health – Geelong.

The Alfred COVID-19 Screening Clinic is open seven days a week from 8am - 6pm. The clinic is located at The Alfred, 55 Commercial Road, Melbourne. The entry is to the left of the main hospital entrance, via the footpath from Commercial Road. Patients should follow the blue signs when they arrive. Staff will direct patients when they arrive.

Patients should only go to the Emergency Department if they are seriously unwell.

GPs are reminded to monitor the [Department of Health and Human Services website](#) for the latest information on coronavirus disease (COVID-19), including how to manage patients who present with a suspected case.

If your clinic is not able to provide screening, please consider making screening supplies available to those practices who are continuing to screen. This includes surgical and P2/N95 masks, gowns, goggles, gloves, swab kits and hand sanitiser. If you are able to assist in this way, please email The Alfred GP Liaison team - gp.liaison@alfred.org.au.

New Neurology clinic at Sandringham

A new Neurology clinic has commenced at Sandringham hospital, seeing patients with general neurological conditions, epilepsy, multiple sclerosis (MS) and neuroimmunology (NI). The multidisciplinary clinic will be staffed by consultant neurologists Josh Laing (Epilepsy and General Neurology) and Robb Wesselingh (MS and NI, and General Neurology), three fellows, two nurse consultants (Epilepsy and MS and NI) and a neurological dietitian.

The MBS-billed clinic will provide convenient care for patients from the local area, as well as the Peninsula, and will be held weekly at Sandringham Specialist Consulting Clinic on Tuesday afternoons.

To refer, please fax a named referral to one of the consulting specialists to (03) 9076 1252. For further information and clinic enquiries, call (03) 9076 1288 or refer to [The Alfred Neurology Referral Guidelines](#).

New Cardiology clinic at Sandringham

Alfred Health is now pleased to offer specialist arrhythmia services at Sandringham Hospital for rapid review of patients with cardiac rhythm disorders, particularly those for consideration of catheter ablation or device implantation including:

- Atrial fibrillation (AF)
- Supraventricular Tachycardia (SVT)
- Ventricular Tachycardia (VT)
- Syncope
- Consideration for pacemaker or cardiac device implantation
- Troublesome palpitations for investigation

Timely appointments are available to ensure rapid review of patients referred from the local area including Sandringham Emergency and local GPs.

The MBS-billed clinic will be held at Sandringham Hospital Specialist Consulting Clinic fortnightly on Thursday mornings, and is staffed by consultant cardiologists including Dr Sandeep Prabhu, and an electrophysiologist.

Please fax referrals addressed to Dr Sandeep Prabhu to fax (03) 9076 1252. For enquiries, please contact Jill Blacker (clinic co-ordinator) on (03) 9076 1288.

Travel Medicine Masterclass

The Travel Medicine Masterclass is a two-day short course designed for GPs, nurses and others providing healthcare and advice to travellers. The course is facilitated by travel medicine experts from The Alfred, Royal Melbourne and Royal Children's Hospitals, and aims to provide practical guidance on management of travellers before and after travel. Sessions are interactive and include case-based discussions with a focus on pre-travel vaccines, management of malaria chemoprophylaxis, and other common travel-associated health issues.

Registration is \$1100, and includes a course booklet and digital resources. RACGP Accreditation for 2020 is currently in progress.

Dates: Thursday 30 April - Friday 1 May 2020

Venue: This session will now be an online interactive symposium to reduce COVID-19 transmission risk.

To register and for further information go to <https://www.monash.edu/healthed-institute/short-courses/travel-medicine-masterclass>.

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>

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