

# Alfred Health GP News

## Welcome to the June 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)

### GP Matters Survey

Alfred Health is committed to improving communication with GPs. Your feedback is key in assisting us in improving access to our services and systems to support patient care. GP feedback has been essential in developing better discharge communication, establishing GP education outreach and improved access to outpatients. **We would greatly appreciate your opinions and feedback by completing the survey either via the online link below or by faxing the attached hard copy survey to fax 9076 2305.**

You may open the survey in your web browser by clicking the link below:

[Alfred Health - GPs Matter Survey](#)

If the link above does not work, try copying the link below into your web browser:

<https://redcap.alfredhealth.org.au/redcap/surveys/?s=EWXAD8DTCF>

*Alfred Health gratefully acknowledges the assistance of Eastern Health GP Liaison in the development of the survey.*

### Bariatric Surgery at The Alfred

The Alfred Bariatric Surgical Service provides assessment, management and review of patients requiring surgical management of obesity. Surgical interventions include laparoscopic banding, sleeve gastrectomy and gastric bypass.

In accordance with the Department of Health's framework for bariatric surgery, patients being referred to the Alfred Health bariatric service program should:

- have a BMI>40 OR a BMI<35, with two or more significant obesity-related co-morbidities eg hypertension requiring medication; type 2 diabetes mellitus; dyslipidaemia; obstructive sleep apnoea; pulmonary hypertension; obesity hypoventilation syndrome; and/or non-alcoholic fatty liver disease;
- be over 18 years of age at the time of referral;
- be younger than 65 years of age at the time of surgery;
- have attempted but not succeeded in achieving or maintaining clinically beneficial weight loss using non-surgical measures.

Please note that due to high demands on the service, there are long waiting times for surgery. A completed [Bariatric Clinic Screening Assessment](#) form is required for referral to the service, and patients are required to participate in a health improvement and weight management program prior to receiving an outpatient appointment.

Patients who have a history of bariatric surgery may also be referred for assessment or ongoing management. Please include in your referral;

- Details of previous surgery;
- Current symptoms (pain, weight change, reflux, nocturnal regurgitation or dysphagia);
- Results of Barium swallow and gastroscopy.

Please note patients post bariatric surgery should be referred immediately to the Emergency Department if experiencing:

- Severe abdominal pain;
- Intolerance of fluids;
- Fever;
- Shortness of breath.

Further information about Bariatric Surgery at The Alfred can be found on the [Alfred website](#).

### **GPs are invited to attend Grand Rounds at The Alfred**

The Alfred Hospital Grand Round is the premier weekly event on campus where physicians, surgeons, radiologists, pathologists, anaesthetists, researchers, Alfred Health registrars and other trainees enjoy a convivial and educational atmosphere with a broad cross-section of their colleagues. GPs are warmly invited to attend.

The Alfred Grand Rounds are held **each Thursday in the AMREP seminar room, from 12.30 – 1.30pm**. Lunch is provided from 12pm. Each session begins with a 5-minute clinical vignette for discussion, followed by the main presentation of 45 minutes’ duration, with time for questions.

The program includes speakers from most disciplines, including medicine, surgery, anaesthesia, trauma and the on-site research institutes.

Upcoming Grand Rounds are:

Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> June	An update on thyroid diseases by Professor Duncan Topliss
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> June	Radiology by Dinesh Varma/ Megan Ang
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> June	Cardiology - Heart Failure by Peter Bergin & David Kaye
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> July	Anatomical Pathology by Catriona McLean

**Please note, the scheduled topics for the Grand Rounds may change.**

For further information or to receive details of each week’s Grand Round by email, please contact Priyanka Chahal on 9903 0198, or email [P.Chahal@alfred.org.au](mailto:P.Chahal@alfred.org.au).

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

Our GP Liaison team –Tracey O’Connell, Amelia Matlock, Dr Josie Samers and Lucy Bassett – 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).*