

Welcome to the May edition of Alfred Health GP news

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

The GP Liaison team hopes everyone is keeping safe and in good spirits during this challenging time. We will continue to provide regular updates on COVID-19 as changes occur throughout the health service.

COVID-19 update

A new dedicated COVID-19 page with [Information for General Practitioners](#) has been created on the Alfred Health webpage.

This page contains updates on the COVID-19 crisis along with the impacts on Alfred Health Services, and will be updated regularly to ensure the most up to date information is available.

Resources have also been provided to assist general practice in caring for people in the community such as:

- Alfred Health application and removal of PPE video and poster
- Information on accessing Health Pathways Melbourne
- The National COVID-19 Clinical Evidence Taskforce Australian Guidelines and flow chart to assist with management of patients with suspected and confirmed COVID-19.

Integrated Care Community of Practice events

The next Integrated Care Communities of Practice (CoP) event will be held via Zoom and include a panel discussion on **Having Difficult Conversations** followed by **Q&A**.

Panel:

- Dr Greg Wheeler - *Principles for having difficult conversations; delivering bad news*
Consultant Radiation Oncologist, Paediatric and Late Effects Tumour Stream Director, Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre & Medical Director, Paediatric Integrated Cancer Service VCCC
- Lisa O'Driscoll - *Discussing Advanced Care Planning and Goals of Care*
Manager Advance Care Planning, Executive Officer for Improving End of Life Care Committee, Alfred Health
- Jack Nagle - *Discussing addiction, alcohol & drug use with patients and families*
SEMPHN, AOD Population Health, Govt Advisory, Founder realdrugtalk, media commenter
- Dr Daniel Fineberg - *Addressing discussions around weight*
General Physician and Endocrinologist, Alfred Health

Host: Dr Josie Samers, GP Liaison Consultant, Alfred Health.

Two sessions will be held with the same content and speakers, with both an early morning and an after-hours session to choose from:

AM Session

Friday 22nd May 2020 | 7.00am-8.15am | Online via PC, Mac, tablet or other mobile device

Please register in advance for this meeting:

<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJEtc-qsqjvHdeAthuh64qPpH31NwdaFps0>

PM Session

Tuesday 26th May 2020 | 6.00pm – 7.15pm | Online via PC, Mac, tablet or other mobile device

Please register in advance for this meeting:

<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJctcOuhrijwiGNAYP02qk6II0VLAZDb4eHs->

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing the link and information about joining the meeting. **Pre-registration is required for authorised access on the day.**

As always, this event is open to local general practice, community health, council services, hospitals, community houses, home services, social services, support services and more with a view to increasing local service awareness and connectivity. This CoP forum will be open to other nearby council regions and there will be time allocated at the end for those who wish to stay online and meet others from their region via **breakout rooms**.

On behalf of the partner host organisations of Alfred Health, SEMPHN, SMPCP, DHHS and ADMA, we hope to see you via your computer.

Alfred Health Advance Care Planning

We are still in operation during this COVID-19 crisis, and Advance Care Planning is more important now than ever.

Do you know what your patients would want if they became unwell?

If a person becomes unwell and is not able to communicate their preferences, who would speak for them? Would that person know what they wanted?

Anyone can appoint a Medical Treatment Decision Maker (MTDM); this is then the person who will make decisions on their behalf.

Completing an Advance Care Directive not only supports that person and enables them to make decisions, it also ensures that their family, friends and health care team know what the person's health and care needs really are. This can give everyone peace of mind.

There is no cost for our service and we can provide support and assistance for anyone living in our catchment area, not just Alfred Health patients .

The ACP team can:

- Send information to patients
- Ensure their information is shared appropriately
- Assist patients to complete the documents
- We can also provide education or support for health care professionals.

Currently our input is provided via phone or videoconsultation.

Please contact us with any questions, for more information or to make a referral phone **(03) 9076 6642** or via email advancecareplanning@alfredhealth.org.au.

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.

As our team are currently assisting with the response to the COVID-19 crisis, please email your queries to gp.liaison@alfred.org.au and we will reply as soon as possible. We appreciate your understanding that there may be delays at this time.

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