

HARP Units & Medicare Locals – working together!



MEDICARE LOCALS are primary health care organisations recently established to coordinate primary health care delivery and tackle local health care needs and service gaps.

Medicare Locals drive improvements in primary health care and ensure that services are better tailored to meet the needs of local communities.

HOW CAN NSW STIPU SUPPORT YOUR ENGAGEMENT WITH MEDICARE LOCALS?

- Support for initial contact and assistance setting a meeting
- Participation in initial meetings
- Access to resources for General Practitioners and Primary Healthcare Nurses (PN)
- Access to sexual health training, including online, face to face, supervised clinical attachments and PDSA cycles

COMMENCED 1 JULY 2011

Hunter
(02) 4925 2259

New England
(02) 6766 1394

Murrumbidgee
(02) 69233100

Western Sydney
(02) 8811 7100

COMMENCED 1 JANUARY 2012

Illawarra-Shoalhaven
(02) 4220 7600

Lodden Mallee Murray*
(03) 5441 7806

Nepean-Blue Mountains
(02) 4721 1150

North Coast NSW
(02) 6618 5400

Northern Sydney
(02) 9477 8700

Western NSW
(02) 6884 0197

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Central Coast NSW
(02) 4365 2294

Eastern Sydney
(02) 9663 5958

Far West NSW
(02) 6872 4777

Hume*
(02) 6041 0000

Inner West Sydney
(02) 9799 0933

South Eastern Sydney
(02) 9545 3533

Southern NSW
(02) 4475 0800

South Western Sydney
1300 179 765

Sydney North Shore
and Beaches
1300 798 307

WHAT YOU CAN DO – INITIAL CONTACT – MEDICARE LOCALS:

- Contact the CEO of Medicare Local to discuss local needs and local clinical and health promotion services
- Present local STI/BBV data to Medicare Local CEO or Board - use 'NSW Medicare Local Planning Project' documents on ASHM website to highlight:
 - Disease prevalence in the area
 - Low rates of STI testing
- Discuss GP and PN role in responding to STI testing, treatment, contact tracing
- Invite Medicare Local board members and staff to visit and tour the Publically Funded Sexual Health Service (PFSHS)
- Discuss the support that can be provided by your service to GPs, PNs and the Medicare Local

*Some ML may work across state borders



STIPU RESOURCES FOR GENERAL PRACTICE



STI Testing Tool

http://www.stipu.nsw.gov.au/icms_docs/147045_GP_STI_Testing_Tool_2012.pdf

Contact Tracing Tool

<http://www.stipu.nsw.gov.au/content/Document/GP%20Contact%20Tracing%20Tool.pdf>



Patient Self Testing Tool

www.stipu.nsw.gov.au/content/Document/SELF_TESTING_CARD.pdf

Online GP Sexual Health Training

<http://thinkgp.com.au/stipu>

Online Practice Nurse Training

<http://apna.e3learning.com.au/> OR 1300 303 184



Practice Nurse Special Interest Group

email nswstipu@gmail.com

STI Active Learning Module - face to face training for GPs

www.ashm.org.au

SEXUAL HEALTH INFOLINE: 1800 451 624
www.shil.nsw.gov.au

The Sexual Health Infoline supports general practice with timely advice, clinical information, referral and support for General Practitioners and Primary Healthcare Nurses.

The Sexual Health Infoline has a variety of free promotional resources that can be used in health care settings and for the community.

ESTABLISHING A RELATIONSHIP WITH MEDICARE LOCALS:

Medicare Locals (ML) are an essential communication network and vital for promoting education opportunities to general practice.

- Develop a Sexual Health Special Interest Group, co chaired by ML and LHD, with stakeholders like PFSHS, HARP HP, ACCHOs, NGOs, education providers, GPs and PN with relevant interest or experience
- Develop a GP Sexual Health Project Advisory or Working Group to develop a project to promote sexual health within the general practice setting
- Present sexual health updates to Medicare Local staff and discuss the role of general practice
- Inform the Medicare Local of funding opportunities, like World AIDS Day, and work with them to develop a local project
- Deliver Sexual Health Education for GPs (STI ALM available through ASHM NSW)
- Distribute sexual health resources, information and newsletters to GPs and PNs via Medicare Local networks
- Write a regular article for the Medicare Locals Newsletter
- Work with the Medicare Local to develop referral pathways to local services
- Consider joint projects with the Medicare Local and the Youth services
- Utilise the STIPU proforma's to support GPs to undertake RACGP activities in sexual health www.stipu.nsw.gov.au

For further information, please contact nswstipu@gmail.com

References:

Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing Medicare Locals <http://www.yourhealth.gov.au/internet/yourhealth/publishing.nsf/Content/medilocals-lp-1>
Australasian Society for HIV Medicine <http://www.ashm.org.au/images/PDFS/ASHM-NSW-Issues-For-Medicare-Locals.pdf>