

Expressions of Interest: Alcohol and Other Drugs Building General Practice Capacity Pilot Project

Gold Coast Primary Health Network (GCPHN) are seeking Expressions of Interest (EOI) from Gold Coast general practices who have a specialisation in Alcohol and Other Drugs (AOD).

Type of Opportunity	Area of Interest	Number of Representatives
Collaborative Project	Alcohol and Other Drugs	3 Practice Sites

Opportunity

To join a collaborative AOD intervention and management pilot project between March and June 2021 (with the potential to extend depending on funding availability).

Background

As part of the consultation process for the Mental Health, Suicide Prevention and Alcohol and Other Drugs Services Joint Regional Plan, local GPs have told us that their capacity to support patients with problematic or harmful substance can be limited.

They need:

- more information to aid patient screening, assessment and referral
- timely access to external treatment options
- specialist support, especially around Opioid Substitution Therapy / in-home detox options
- links to services to assist with navigating treatment options
- appropriate reimbursement through MBS

Purpose

The pilot project is designed to provide support to local general practices to increase their confidence to manage people with problematic AOD use, by codesigning and embedding continuous quality improvement practices and resources. Additionally, practices involved will help inform GCPHN as to how best we can support GPs and pharmacists to access AOD treatment and support for their patients.

Level 1, 14 Edgewater Court, Robina 4226 | PO Box 3576 Robina Town Centre QLD 4230
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"Building one world class health system for the Gold Coast."

Gold Coast Primary Health Network gratefully acknowledges the financial and other support from the Australian Government Department of Health. Primary Care Gold Coast Limited (ABN 47152953092), trading as the Gold Coast Primary Health Network.

Gold Coast Primary Health Network would like to acknowledge and pay respect to the land and the traditional practices of the families of the Yugambeh Language Region of South East Queensland and their Elders past, present and emerging.

Project outcomes

- Provision of AOD specific education and training for general practice staff including GPs, general practice nurses and practice managers.
- Increase uptake of screening and brief intervention resources by practice staff and build these into existing work practices to ensure sustainability of the project.
- Provide participating practices with resources and support throughout the duration of the project to support the requirements for the Practice Incentive Payment (PIP) for AOD Quality Improvement (QI) Activities.
- Increase Primary Care awareness of AOD support services available to patients in the GCPHN region.

As a pilot practice, you will be invited to:

- Give feedback on the approach to achieve the desired outcomes of the project which have been informed from local GP stakeholders engagement.
- Guide how the AOD specialist system could best support general practice concerns about identification, screening, management, and referral options for their patients with AOD concerns.
- Inform and advise how the AOD Quality Improvement Toolkit and Resources can be implemented to ensure they are embedded within general practice existing work practices and processes.
- Promote the AOD Project locally including the uptake of AOD online training, Quality Improvement Toolkit and Resources and screening options.
- Inform and advise on the feasibility of establishing a 'communities of practice' framework, to provide continued AOD support as well as a vehicle for interested GPs to engage with AOD experts and each other.

Participating practices will have the opportunity to:

- Access to the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) / Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine (ACRRM) AOD incentivised online learning for GPs.
- Peer-to-peer support from the Alcohol and Drugs GP Champion.
- Access AOD training and support package delivered by Insight, available to practice managers, nurses and receptionist staff in AOD related topics including COVID-19 and substance use, managing complexity in the general practice environment, and foundational drug knowledge including cannabis, alcohol and methamphetamine.
- Participate in community of practice platform (online forum) to collaborate with participating practices.
- Support to complete AOD QI toolkit.

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- The QI toolkit has been created exclusively for participating practices to support GPs and practice staff in implementing meaningful quality improvement activities related to screening, management and referral for substance use. The toolkit is made up of modules that are designed to support the practice team to make easy, measurable and sustainable improvements. GPs and nurses can self-record points for this component of participation.
- It is intended that following refinement and testing of the toolkit through pilot project the toolkit would be rolled out and available for all practices in the region.

Project Participation Practice deliverables:

- Nominate a team of GP, practice nurse and practice manager
- Participate in the RACGP or ACRRM AOD training (general practitioner)
- Participate in Insight's AOD training and support for practice managers, nurses, and receptionists.
- Identify a continuous quality improvement (CQI) activity and complete the project CQI toolkit for identified CQI Project (e.g. screening) by 31 June 2021.
- Review AOD CQI Toolkit

Please register your interest and complete the [registration form](#) based on the selection criteria outlined in this document.

The deadline for application submission is: **4pm, Friday 19 February 2021**. All applications will be informed of the outcome of the EOI by email.

Questions regarding the process may be addressed to Natasha van Bruggen by email natashav@gcphn.com.au or phone (07) 5612 5471.

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