**QI Action Plan- \*add practice name\***

**Health Assessments for patients aged**

**45-49 years QI Activity**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Ask-Do-Describe** | |
| **Why do we want to change?** | |
| **Gap** | Uptake and completion of Health Assessments for our patients aged 45-49 years could be improved. |
| **Benefits** | Improved patient health outcomes, reduce risk, increase efficiency, promote healthy lifestyle. Activity may support meeting PIP QI requirements. |
| **Evidence** | General practice is at the forefront of healthcare in Australia and in a pivotal position to deliver preventive healthcare. More than 137 million general practice consultations take place annually in Australia and 85% of the Australian population consult a general practitioner (GP) at least once a year. Preventive healthcare is an important activity in general practice. It includes the prevention of illness, the early detection of specific disease, and the promotion and maintenance of health. The partnership between GP and patient can help people reach their goals of maintaining or improving health. Preventive care is also critical in addressing the health disparities faced by disadvantaged and vulnerable population groups.  Prevention of illness is the key to Australia’s future health – both individually and collectively. About 32% of Australia’s total burden of disease can be attributed to modifiable risk factors. [(RACGP, Guidelines for preventative activities in general practice, 2021)](https://www.racgp.org.au/clinical-resources/clinical-guidelines/key-racgp-guidelines/view-all-racgp-guidelines/guidelines-for-preventive-activities-in-general-pr/preamble/introduction#ref-num-1)  A health assessment for patients aged 45-49 years can assist patients to make the necessary lifestyle changes to prevent or delay the onset of chronic disease. ([Department of Health and Aged Care, Medicare Health Assessments Resource Kit, 2014)](https://www1.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/mha_resource_kit#proforma) |
| **What** do we want to change? | |
| **Topic** | Increased completion rates of Health Assessments for regular patients of \*practice name\* aged 45-49 years. |
| **How much** do we want to change? | |
| **Baseline**  *Baseline data is the % of*  *your current performance.*  *Add your practice performance percentage.* | *Baseline data for QI activities can be obtained from multiple sources e.g.:*   * *Data analytic tools- e.g., Primary Sense.* * *Clinical information systems using the “search” function/patient registers.*   **Example:**   * *Baseline data can be obtained from Primary Sense – Health Assessments Report first table (number of patients eligible can be identified in exported Excel spreadsheet).* * \*XX *patients aged 45-49 years eligible for a Health Assessment.* |
|  |
| **Target**  *Target is the number of Health Assessments for patients aged 45-49 years to be completed to meet your goal.* | **Example:** *Initial target is to reduce the number of patients with missing Health Assessments to \*XX.* |
|  |
| **Sample**  *Sample is the number of patients that are eligible for a Health Assessment to meet your target.*  *Add your practice sample.* | ***Example:***   * *Sample could be determined from a Primary Sense report– Health Assessments Report.* * *XX patients aged 45 to 49 years who have not had a Health Assessment OR* * *Sample is XX patients to reduce the number of patients with missing Health Assessments to XX.*   *Tip (if the list is large) - consider narrowing down your sample size by focusing on:*   * *Specific age groups. e.g., 45–47-year age group/patients who have just turned 45/ patients who are 49.* * *Existing appointment to allow discussion and rebooking of Health Assessment appointment.* * *Patients with a high Chronic Disease Risk Score (CDRS) and or Diabetes Risk Score (DRS) – e.g., CDRS of ≥5 or a DRS of ≥9.* |
|  |
| **Who** is involved in the change? | |
| **Contributors**  *Add names of the practice team involved* | **Practice Manager:**  **GPs:**  **Practice Nurses:**  **Receptionists:**  **GCPHN QI Project Officer:** |
| **When** are we making the change? | |
| **Deadlines**  *Add key dates here for this activity.* | **Baseline data report generated:**  **Implementation between (from/to):**  **Review meeting/s:**  **Final evaluation meeting:** |
| **How** are we going to change? | |
| **Implement**  *List some improvement strategies in order of implementation*  ***(see Appendix 1 for suggestions).*** | **1.**  **2.**  **3.** |
| **STOP: The next section is to be completed after implementation has already commenced.** | |
| **Monitor**  *A minimum of one QI*  *activity review /touchpoint is required.*  *You can include multiple reviews/touchpoints – list by date.* | **Review 1 - Date:**  *What is working/not working?*  *Has there been a change in your performance? If not, why not?* |
| **STOP: The next section is to be completed at the end/closure of activity.** | |
| **How much** did we change? | |
| **Performance**  *Question: Did you*  *achieve your target?*  *If not, reflect on why not* | **Example:**   * *Number of patients eligible for a Health Assessment aged 45-49 years has decreased from baseline XX to XX.* * *This was an \*increase/decrease\* from our baseline data.* * *Our Health Assessments**\*increased/decreased\* due to \*XX\*.* |
|  |
| **Worthwhile**  *Was the effort to complete the improvement activity worth the outcome?*  *Did the team value the improvement activity?* | **Example:**   * *We believe the effort to complete the activity* ***was worthwhile*** *as we decreased the number of patients eligible for a Health Assessment in the 45- to 49-year-old age group.*   ***OR***   * *We believe this activity* ***was not worth*** *the effort required, as we did not significantly reduce the number of patients eligible for a Health Assessment in the 45- to 49-year-old age group.* |
|  |
| **Learn**  *What lessons learnt*  *could you use for other improvement activities?*  *What worked well, what could have been changed or improved?* | **Example:**   * *Sending SMS reminders resulted in higher bookings than phone calls.* |
|  |
| **What next?** | |
| **Sustain**  *Implement new processes and systems into business as usual - which parts of this activity, if any, will you incorporate into business as usual at your practice?* | **Example:**   * *Nurses/Doctors will continue to add in reminders for patients due for a Health Assessment.* |
|  |
| **Monitor**  *Review target measure quarterly and initiate corrective measures as required.* | **Example:** *Review Primary Sense – Health Assessments Report once a month to track performance over time.* |
|  |
| **Appendix 1 – Potential solutions** | |
| ***Review suggested implementation strategies listed below. You do not have to implement all options that are brainstormed/listed.***   * Identify eligible patients. For example, using Primary Sense - Health Assessments Report   + Staff to add a reminder and follow up with patients - could be by letter, SMS, secure email, or phone call.   + Identify and flag patients with existing appointments (could focus on high-risk patients first using CDRS or DRS), identify if staff has capacity to complete on the day. If not flag to be offered at time of visit and rebooked.   + If clinical staff do have time to complete at existing appointment, reception/ nurse to contact patient to ensure it is agreeable with them. * Consider implementing a process for new patients to add in reminders to ensure Health Assessments are completed (new patient questionnaire). * Consider if your patient may be a suitable candidate for [My health for life,](https://www.myhealthforlife.com.au/) which is an evidence-based behavior change initiative for people at risk of developing chronic disease. Access the [Health Professional Toolkit here](https://gcphn.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/MH4L-Health-Professional-Toolkit-1.pdf). More information how to refer patients is found on the [GCPHN website here.](https://gcphn.org.au/patient-care/prevention/my-health-for-life/#my-health-for-life-information-and-resources) * Potential ways to promote Health Assessments for patients with their usual GP may include:   + practice webpage, newsletter, and social media pages   + during care plan and other routine appointments   + phone out of hours and on hold messages   + SMS alerts   + online booking system messaging. * Review the [GCPHN Health Assessment QI Toolkit](https://gcphn.org.au/practice-support/support-for-general-practice/quality-improvement/qi-toolkits/#prevention) for further ideas. * Monitor participation using excel spreadsheet and/or Primary Sense. | |