



# On The Pulse

Issue 4 : Oct - Dec 2022

Welcome to our fourth edition of On The Pulse, an informative newsletter we've developed for health providers to build awareness of RHD and for health providers who have patients with RHD to help assist and keep you up to date with the program.



# Artwork



**Title:** The safe path for our children

**Artist:** Anonymous

**Donated To:** Kuranda Medical Centre

The *HeART* art project flowed from a collaboration between the *RHD Register and Control Program Queensland* (RHD Program) and northern Queensland correction and detention facilities for men, women and youth in Townsville and Mareeba. The projects aim was to work with in-mates and detention centre youth to expand their own; and community's knowledge on an illness and disease that often goes under recognised.

Participants were asked to finalise an art piece portraying their message for Acute Rheumatic Fever and Rheumatic Heart Disease. Through their art they shared personal stories, educated others about the seriousness of the disease, and provided peer support to those in need.

Participants have donated their artwork to health centres and hospitals throughout North Queensland to ensure their message is displayed to the greater public.

# Patient Rewards Have Started

The Register would like to reward patients who are consistent with their Bicillin injections. To be eligible to receive a reward, the patient must have received 6 injections in a row all within the recommended timeframe (21-28 days). Patients must also be under the age to 21 to be eligible.

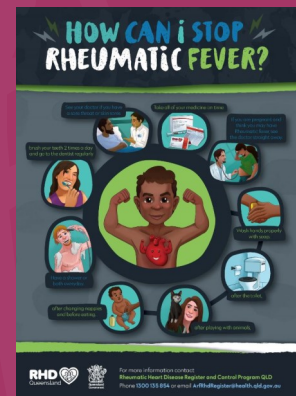
The first reward to be sent out will be a steel RHD drink bottle. Rewards range from water bottles to Bluetooth speakers, sports balls and wonderful t-shirts. We highly encourage the patients to continue getting their injections.



# Need Resources?

Our team at RHD are committed to expanding the knowledge and improving patient outcomes. To facilitate this we supply many useful resources to health providers who are engaged with their patients. We have a range of resources on offer from bicillin calculation wheels, flyers and posters, lanyards and cards, appointment cards, and a whole range of goodies for the children who would like something after their bicillin injection.

If you find that anything would be of help to you or the practice you work at then please feel free to contact our office and we would be glad to send you a resource order form. Simply complete what you would like on the form, email back to us at [arfrhdregister@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:arfrhdregister@health.qld.gov.au) and we will send you the resources.



## Echo Recalls

We would like to thank you all for your time in completing the Echo Recalls every three months. RHD Queensland is also glad to announce that we have made a few changes to our system. We have been able to capture more data, allowing the Register to capture patients future bookings in our system. This will reduce the amount of recall data sent out to providers. Less stress for all of our providers and better data quality for our patients.

## Strong Body—Will Return

Many of you have received resource order and asked for the Strong Heart, Strong body A5 comic. The colourful version of this will return, so please do not be alarmed.

We have old stock from previous versions that we are wanting to use first before reverting back to our popular colorful cartoon version. They will return.



# Changes to Register

Modifications have been made to the register to ensure the most robust and accurate information is being captured. You may have noticed the following fields are no longer captured.

**Client Tab:** language, children and marriage status have been removed.

**Prophylaxis Tab:** added anticoagulant yes/no selection box.

**Warfarin Tab:** tab has been removed

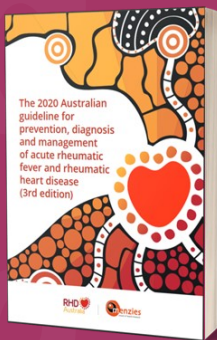
**Immunisation Tab:** tab has been removed

# ARF Notification Form

A friendly reminder that if you consider a patient to be suffering from an acute rheumatic fever episode, please complete the below form and return via fax or email to the RHD Register.

The preferred form can be found by clicking on this link: [ARF Form](#)

# Digital Guidelines



A friendly reminder that if you are in need of a copy of the guidelines these can now be downloaded free from the RHD Australia website.

No more hardcopies of future editions will be printed as this is now considered a living document and will be regularly updated in line with new evidence as required.

**You can download the latest PDF of the guidelines here:**

<https://www.rhdaustralia.org.au/arf-rhd-guideline>

## Given Bicillin - Let us know!

Recently given a patient a Bicillin injection? Please let us know as soon as possible. We retain a record of all their injections.

You can email us at [arfrhdregister@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:arfrhdregister@health.qld.gov.au), call 1300 135 854 or fax 1300 429 536.

Be sure to let us know where it was given, when it was given and who it was given to.

## Need Information - Contact Us!

If you require information on a patient, we can assist you. We keep as much information as possible relevant to the patient's ARF/RHD history. Give us a call or an email and we can arrange a PDF of information to be sent through, including echos, cardiology reviews, history of injections, notifications etc.

You can email us at [arfrhdregister@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:arfrhdregister@health.qld.gov.au) or call 1300 135 854.

## Need Help Administering - Talk To Us!

Has a patient arrived requesting a Bicillin injection and you are unsure of what to do? That's ok, we are here to help. This procedure can be daunting if unsure of how to do it, we have nurses available to consult you over the phone and guide you for the best outcome for your patient.

You can call us on 1300 135 854 and we can direct you to an available nurse for assistance on administering bicillin to a patient.

***“The Queensland RHD Program believe all Australians should have the same health outcomes.***

***Our aim is to stop young people dying from a preventable disease.  
Together, we can make RHD history!”***

Ph: 1300 135 854

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Fax: 1300 429 536

Website: [www.rhdaustralia.org.au](http://www.rhdaustralia.org.au)

