



## DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL PRACTICE NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN 2021

### Welcome

Dear Colleagues

We are hoping 2021 feels like a breath of fresh air for you after all the craziness of 2020. In spite of the enormous workload involved in changing our ways of managing general practices and our ways of teaching and learning, I hope that like us, you are finding some of the changes in 2020 are yielding benefits and will inform our practices into the future!

Our GP Supervisors have been key to managing the WSU program during 2020 and we couldn't be more grateful for their commitment and flexibility during a time of considerable stress for practice teams and patients. We have also been inspired by our year 5 students so many of whom took on Assistant in Medicine roles in the hospitals. It was great to celebrate their achievements at the end of 2020.

As you will read in this newsletter, we are back in full swing with student placements including offering flexible GP placements a day a month for Year 2 students who were disappointed to miss out on their GP experience in 2020. That means that in 2021 we will be placing about 130 second year students in the first half of the year AND our usual 130 Year 1 placements in the second half of the year – in addition to rotations of Year 3 and Year 5 students across the year!! We will certainly be calling on our outstanding GP Supervisors to demonstrate to our students, the importance of general practice in the community and the health system.

In other news you will read about our extraordinary good fortune in having three new academic registrars this year, two of whom are WSU alumni. Speaking of which our former registrar (Shakif Shakur - himself an alumnus) has assisted us to track down 44 WSU GP alumni and you can read a snap shot of their experiences in the Alumni section of the newsletter. In particular, we honour a WSU GP Alumnus who was recognised as RACGP Registrar of the year in 2020 – read on to find out her name!



Whilst some of our research slowed with COVID-19, we are recruiting participants once again in our national trials of management approaches to common childhood ear conditions with urban and regional Aboriginal communities. We are also excited to be working with Primary Health Networks (PHNs) on two new evaluations of health service innovations. In 2021 we will be extending our work on defining high quality in Australian general practice with 8 PHNs nationally. You may also be interested to read of our planned research with MD students. With a new student cohort commencing their research each year, we welcome potential research ideas for these enthusiastic students.

Thank you for all your support for our students and for our program!

Warm Regards

Jenny

**Professor Jenny Reath**  
**Peter Brennan Chair of General Practice**

### GP Conjoint

Thank you to all our GP Conjoins. We greatly value your commitment and contribution to our teaching and research activities here at Western Sydney University. If your name is not on this list your conjoint status may have expired. Please contact Vicki Bradley [v.bradley@westernsydney.edu.au](mailto:v.bradley@westernsydney.edu.au) and she will assist you!

Dr Ali Alsamail, Dr Aline Smith,  
Dr Alison Lyon, Dr Andrew Knight,  
Dr Angela Kwok, Dr Aziz Zaman,  
Dr Benjamin Tooma,  
Dr Channappa Jayadev,  
Dr Christine Ahern,  
Dr Christine Metusela, Dr Dana Slape,  
Dr David Cosgriff, Dr David Le,  
Dr Deepa Mahananda,  
Dr Derek Tang, Prof Diana O'Halloran,  
Dr Fiona MacKintosh, Dr Hani Bittar,  
Dr Helen Balkin, Dr Helen Chriss,  
Dr Hien T Tran, Dr Ivan Parise,  
Dr Jane Burges (Leete),  
Dr Jason Cheng, Dr Jaspreet Saini,  
Dr Jenny James, Dr Joanne Grimsdale,  
Dr John Houston,  
Dr Jo Marie Languido,  
Dr Jurriaan Beek,  
Dr Kam Cheung Glen Au-Yeung,  
Dr Kenneth McCroary,  
Dr Kun Yun Kelvin Hon,  
Ms Letitia Campbell, Dr Liliane Carchedi,  
Dr Linda Brown, Dr Louise McDonnell,  
Dr Magdy Girgis, Dr Marietta Languido,  
Dr Mary Girgis, Dr Mazen Khan,  
Dr Michael Phipps, Dr Michael Tran,  
Dr Natalie Cochrane,  
Dr Natalie Lindsay,  
Dr Olataga Alofiva-Doorbinia,  
Dr Pat Romeo, Dr Penny Burns,  
Dr Pravind Kumar, Dr Qing Wan,  
Dr Rajkumar Rajalingam,  
Dr Sithamparapillai Thava Seelan,  
Dr Susan Sunwoo, Dr Tim Senior,  
Dr Tuan Bui, Dr Walid Jammal, and  
Dr Yasin Shahab

# Update from the Department of General Practice



Team Photo

## COVID-19 IMPACT ON GP LEARNING

After a challenging year for student placements in 2020, we are hoping 2021 rolls out closer to our usual model of teaching. The Western Sydney University led by our Dean (Professor Annemarie Hennessy) has expressed grateful thanks to the GP team and our amazing GP supervisors for our efforts in providing an adapted GP curriculum and flexible placements for students undertaking their Assistant in Medicine placements. As we mentioned last year, the vast majority of our students assisted in this way in 2020. We were proud of their willingness and their expertise in taking on this new role.

Dr Miriam Brooks oversaw the GP 5 placements, supporting students and providing additional back to base sessions by Zoom. Ms Sharon Lawrence and Vicki Bradley managed the challenging tasks of finding suitable placements and gathering all the assessment paperwork –from their home offices as the university shut down for most of the year!

In the GP supervisor section of this newsletter we acknowledge all the GP supervisors who in the midst of all the uncertainty of the COVID-19 pandemic, continued to take our students in their practices and to provide a valued learning experience for them. We will also provide more detail about our learning from this experience and changes we are planning for how we run GP placements in the future.

## OUR RURAL CLINICAL SCHOOLS

Students in Bathurst and Lismore have settled well into their respective practices and are making the most of the culture and all of the environmental benefits of rural living.

The GP team in Lismore was sad to farewell Dr Linda Brown, however are busy recruiting to that position.

As always the teams at our RCSs are strongly committed to our students and their experience of high quality teaching and placements is their highest priority. We are indeed grateful for their expert and caring support for our students in these settings!

## CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATIONS

In August 2020 Jenny presented at an online plenary session of the Australasian Association of Academic Primary Care, describing the WSU experience of adapting our GP curriculum and placements as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. The amazing contribution of our dedicated GP supervisors was described as front and centre of all our efforts.

Penny and Jenny joined the GP20 conference, the annual RACGP event for education, research and networking, which was held online in November. Penny presented in the research symposium on “Welcomeness in general practice for people with substance use disorders”, representing a qualitative research project into the healthcare experiences of justice-involved women who had problems with alcohol and other drugs. Penny also co-presented in a seminar on “Caring for disadvantaged communities in the pandemic: Stories from the frontline”, where she focused on the effect of COVID on people in prison. These presentations and many others remain online in the GP20 website until November 2021 for those who are interested.

## WELCOMES AND FAREWELLS

We will be saying goodbye to our 2020 Academic Registrar Dr Shakif Shakur. Shakif has been an amazing addition to our team through this year and will be sorely missed. He has provided energetic and skilled contributions to our teaching, team planning and research. He certainly had a unique experience of academic general practice in this COVID time as we moved to on line teaching. Showing particular dedication, he had to attend the Harvard University-based medical education course he was sponsored to attend via a University excellence award, on line and in the middle of the night instead of in Boston! We look forward to hearing of his future successes as he now moves into a role in medical education with GP Synergy.

As of the beginning of February we welcome three new registrars who are joining us for 2021 – Drs Yvonne An, Olivia Missiakos and Tasnuba Pervaz. Whilst Olivia is looking for a new experience working with us at WSU, Taz and Yvonne are both graduates of our university and members of a growing WSU GP alumnus group. They introduce themselves below and in our next newsletter we will update you in more detail on their research with us.

**Yvonne's** research project aims to gain insight into factors influencing advanced care uptake in the Vietnamese Australian community in Greater Western Sydney. She graduated from Western Sydney University in 2016 and is interested in culturally and linguistically diverse communities.

**Olivia Missiakos** completed her medical training at UNSW in 2015 and has since completed a Masters of Public Health. Her research this year will be looking at cervical screening in women from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.

**Tasnuba** is working on a research project looking at the quality of paediatric care in general practice. Her interests are in paediatrics, global health and tropical medicine with some previous training in paediatrics, completion of a diploma in tropical medicine in the UK and various volunteering efforts in Fiji and Bangladesh.



Academic registrars: Olivia Missiakos, Drs Yvonne An and Tasnuba Pervaz

# GP Supervisor/ Practice Manager News

## GP SUPERVISOR WORKSHOP

Almost 40 GP supervisors attended the combined Sydney Medical School and Western Sydney University General Practice Supervisor Workshop in November. This was our first online workshop and GPs from rural NSW as well as many parts of Sydney registered for this update. Dr Jenny James, GP VMO at the Southwest Sydney Drug and Alcohol support service, provided a very practical and interactive discussion on current thinking about managing patients with chronic pain and how to use opioids wisely, including tips on teaching about this difficult area to students and registrars. One of our senior lecturers, Dr Winston Lo, then discussed how supervisors can identify and support medical students in difficulty, including how to take care of themselves. Despite the online nature of the event, it was rated highly by the attendees, who said they would "[make] changes to self care, to avoid burnout", "monitor more closely for red flags in medical student behaviour and early intervention" and "learn how to discuss opioid use with registrars". Do watch out for upcoming announcements about our next supervisor workshop later in 2021!

## GP SUPERVISOR AWARDS

### INNOVATION CHALLENGE WINNER: CAREMONITOR

Congratulations to Dr Kean-Seng Lim and his practice team who have pioneered use of CareMonitor; winners of Digital Health's first Innovation Challenge. CareMonitor, one of five award winners from 400 applicants, is a digital Shared Care, Remote Monitoring and Telehealth Platform enabling better team-based care. It includes a personalised management plan encouraging patients to be active members of the care team through use of patient collected metrics integrated with a range of medical devices, real time messaging and targeted educational content.

See the link below for more information and an inspiring video featuring our own Kean- Seng Lim!

<https://www.digitalhealth.gov.au/newsroom/innovation/innovation-challenge-winner-caremonitor>

## LEARNING FROM COVID-19

In 2020 with limited GP placement opportunities, we focused efforts on Year 3 and Year 5 GP placements, providing online learning opportunities for Years 1 & 2 students. We also trialed a more flexible placement process for Year 5 students engaged in the Assistant in Medicine (AiMs) placements in the hospital setting.

This year we are aiming to provide catch up experience for those Year 2 students who missed out on their GP placements as first year students, however after this "catch up" we have decided not to continue to offer GP placements across all years of our program due to the workload for both our GP supervisors and our placement team. We will instead provide GP placements routinely in Years 1, 3, 4 (rural) and 5 students.

Additionally, after the success of the flexible AiMs GP placements negotiated between students and their allocated GP Supervisors, we have decided to use this approach for the catch-up Year 2 placements as well as our ongoing Year 1 placements. Please let us know how you find this process which we hope will result in sessions that optimally suit both students and supervisors.

## INTERESTED IN SUPERVISING MEDICAL STUDENTS IN YOUR PRACTICE?

Many GPs find having a medical student in their practice is an interesting and rewarding experience. There are opportunities for mutual learning and to pass on their skills and experience to the next generation. Patients also enjoy the opportunity to contribute to the learning of a future health professional. The School of Medicine at Western Sydney University provides a GP placement for students in Year 1 (eight sessions in second semester), Year 3 (1-2 days per week over five weeks) and Year 5 (3 days per week for five weeks). With Year 1 (and catch up Year 2) placements requiring only two sessions (one day) per month, we encourage our GP Supervisors to take these students in addition to our Year 3 and 5 students!

Findings from a survey of our graduates who are now GPs or GP registrars mention the key role of highly-regarded supervisors during their GP placement that influenced them towards this career pathway. PIP payments for student teaching are available for accredited practices. Do contact Sharon at [S.Lawrence@westernsydney.edu.au](mailto:S.Lawrence@westernsydney.edu.au) if you or a colleague are interested in finding out more and she will be pleased to provide more information.

## NEW PIP DATES

### Medicare Payment Schedule 2021

Cut-off dates for submitting claim forms	Quarterly Payment Month
24 January 2021	February
24 April 2021	May
24 July 2021	August
24 October 2021	November

### 2021 Metro Placement Dates (Semester 1)

Year 2 GP Students: Metro	Year 1 Students: Metro
8 February 2021 – 28 May 2021	5 July 2021 – 22 October 2021
Year 3 MiC Students: Metro	Year 5 GP Students: Metro
MiC 1: 25 January – 26 February 2021	Metro 1: 1 February – 5 March 2021
MiC 2: 1 March – 1 April 2021	Metro 2: 8 March – 9 April 2021
MiC 3: 19 April – 21 May 2021	Metro 3: 12 April – 14 May 2021

### 2021 Metro Placement Dates (Semester 2)

Year 3 MiC Students: Metro	Year 5 GP Students: Metro
MiC 4: 24 May – 25 June 2021	Metro 4: 21 June – 23 July 2021
MiC 5: 19 July – 20 August 2021	Metro 5: 26 July – 27 August 2021
MiC 6: 23 August – 24 September 2021	Metro 6: 13 September – 15 October 2021
MiC 7: 27 September – 29 October 2021	Metro 7: 18 October – 19 October 2021



# Student News



Da Young celebrating her prize with the GP team

## 2020 YEAR 5 PICTON FAMILY MEDICAL CENTRE & WOLLONDILLY COUNCIL PRIZE FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE IN GENERAL PRACTICE

Da Young Lee scored the highest marks in her Year 5 GP rotation in 2020 earning her the Picton Family Medical Centre & Wollondilly Council Prize for Academic Excellence in General Practice. It was a quieter prize giving than usual in 2020 however we managed to catch up with Da Young in the new year and as you can see this outstanding student was very pleased to receive this generous prize! Many thanks to Dr Anna Pham and to Wollondilly Council for this donation and congratulations also to Dr Mary Girgis, who supervised Da Young in her Year 5 GP placement.

Please let Jenny know if you would like to donate a GP prize for any of our student achievements!



Jean-Baptiste Philibert, RACGP Bursary winner

## STUDENT WINS RACGP BURSARY TO WORK IN WARIALDA

Third Year WSU medical student Jean-Baptiste Philibert has won a bursary from the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners to the remote NSW town of Warialda. Jean-Baptiste has a keen interest in rural and remote practice, and visited the Northern Territory last year on a John Flynn Scholarship. He is looking forward to undertaking a rural placement in Bathurst in 2022.

He says: "I'm just passionate about going back out to remote communities as soon as I can. I think regional, rural and remote communities have so much to offer, so much lifestyle, to the millennial generation, and they are the areas of greatest need in our country".



GPSN executive 2021 from left to right: Vinushan Kunagathan, William Zhang, Josh Yu, Laura Beaumont, Yasmine Toufaily, Charmie Fong, and Aashrinee Gunasekara.

## GPSN ACTIVITIES

Our warm welcome to the incoming GP Student Network team:

President - Yasmine Toufaily (Year 3)  
Vice President - Aashrinee Gunasekara (Year 2)  
Treasurer - Baneen Alruiyabi (Year 3)  
Secretary - David Mahfouz (Year 4)  
Publications Officer - Laura Beaumont (Year 2)  
BSC Rep - Josh Yu (Year 3)  
MCS Rep - William Zhang (Year 4)

In their words:

"The General Practice Student Network (GPSN) is a national organisation, run by medical students, that aims to provide opportunities to foster a passion for general practice in future doctors. At Western Sydney University, the GPSN 2021 team is highly enthusiastic about coordinating events for medical students to provide information about general practice, introduce basic clinical skills, and overall provide a safe space for medical students to learn and bond together. COVID-permitting, we intend to host a number of events, including GP First Steps in collaboration with other medical schools in NSW, a Clinical Skills Night in partnership with RCUWS, a GP Careers Night, and so much more! We look forward to hosting these events, and having our GP family grow!"

For updates on our events and other useful GPSN-related information, our new Facebook page can be found here:

<https://www.facebook.com/gpsnwsu>

The GP Department looks forward to working alongside these enthusiastic students this year!



Dr Nick Collins

## NICK COLLINS AWARD

Calling all who knew and loved Nick to assist us to support a WSU student to attend the RACGP 2021 conference in Melbourne this year!

Dr Nick Collins was a Senior Lecturer with the Department of General Practice at Western Sydney University, when he tragically and unexpectedly died in August 2014. Nick joined the newly formed Department of General Practice on 28 February 2011, where he was responsible for GP Supervisor recruitment and support in the South West of Sydney. He worked to develop a GP Mentoring program for students.

He was also engaged in our student teaching and supervised several student research projects, a number culminating in student presentations at the RACGP annual conference. As an active member of the RACGP, Nick was pleased to see students engaged in RACGP activities.

We are seeking donations so that we can continue to offer this award to deserving students into the future and greatly appreciate the generosity of those who have given previously. To donate please follow this link: <https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/give/ways-to-give/memorial-giving/funds-and-appeals.html#nick-collins>

# Alumni News



Dr Josie Guyer – 2020 RACGP GP in Training of the Year

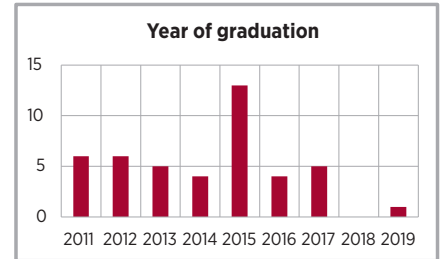


Figure 1 - Year of graduation of WSU alumni in General Practice

## JOSIE GUYER – RACGP REGISTRAR OF THE YEAR

Dr Josie Guyer, a WSU graduate from 2013 has won the RACGP 2020 GP in Training of the Year Award! In 2013 Josie was also the winner of the RACGP inaugural Growing Strong Award.

We are especially proud of Josie as an Indigenous graduate and proud Wiradjuri woman, who has three teenager children. Josie is currently a registrar medical educator with GP Synergy and during the pandemic worked with others to deliver an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health cultural awareness and education webinar to more than 130 GPs in training.

Josie is a wonderful role model and inspiration to Aboriginal people saying: 'I really want to encourage young Aboriginal people to consider a career in health, and especially in medicine, if it's something that they're passionate about. We need to build the presence of Aboriginal professionals in the healthcare workforce. This is essential in closing the disparities in health outcomes between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Australians. I think if I can do it, you can do it, too.'

## GP ALUMNI SURVEY 2020-21

We are always excited to hear where our graduates end up in the world of General Practice. Recently we sent out the second iteration of the GP alumni survey to document their training pathways, and we have so far received a total of 44 responses. The majority of respondents were from the Class of 2015 (n=13), with an even spread of respondents from most other cohorts (see Figure 1).

Of the total respondents, 12 graduates (27.3%) had completed placements at either of our Rural Clinical Schools at Bathurst and Lismore, and 26 (59.1%) graduates reported that they had worked in rural areas since graduating. Thirteen respondents (29.5%) have worked at, or are currently working within an Aboriginal Medical Service or Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Service.

We are proud to see that 23 (52.3%) of these respondents have completed their Fellowship with the RACGP, two of whom have also completed their FARGP. As would be expected, the majority of these Fellows are from the earlier cohorts.

Keep an out for a detailed report of the GP alumni survey to be released in the near future.

In a stop press, we have recently received word from GP Synergy that between 2017 and 2020, 157 WSU graduates entered GP training, 30 of those on a rural pathway. This was up to 40% of our annual total domestic student numbers.

If you would still like to complete the survey, you can do so at:

[https://surveyswesternsydney.au1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_biWkm2l9qzmIOEB](https://surveyswesternsydney.au1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_biWkm2l9qzmIOEB)

## GP ALUMNI IN MEDICAL EDUCATION

The department is very pleased to see that a number of our alumni are now helping train the next generation of General Practitioners! Doctors Josie Guyer, Duc Ho, Bhavana Annabattula, Nirusha Karunaratne and Zenith Lal are all Medical Educators with GP Synergy, the regional training organisation for the future generation of General Practitioners in NSW. Our outgoing Academic Registrar Shakif is also joining them as a Registrar Medical Educator. The first 5 cohorts of WSU graduates are all represented - we wish them all the best in the world of medical education!

Please pass this newsletter onto GP alumni you know and ask them please to drop Jenny a quick email at [j.reath@westernsydney.edu.au](mailto:j.reath@westernsydney.edu.au) so we can add them to our contact list!

# Research Updates

## STUDENT RESEARCH

We worked with two GP Synergy supported students in 2020. Thomas Nguyen completed his examination of year 5 student data (from pre/post surveys) to address the question "How does clinical placement affect student confidence with illness/disease management"? Emma Gregory is completing her review of articles targeting Australian GPs to identify "How many times do different health practitioners recommend GPs play a 'key role' in managing various health issues". We have another student, Astha Malik, who was awarded a GP Synergy Scholarship for 2021. She will be re-analysing the interviews from the Western Sydney Integrated Care Program for her project "Understanding the factors that influence Australian general practices to participate in an integrated care approach: A thematic analysis".

The year 4 students working with us on their 2020 MBBS Community Research Project have now completed a thematic analysis of 125 patient, carer and provider interviews and hope to draft a paper addressing the question "How does an integrated care approach impact patient self-management of chronic disease"?

As WSU School of Medicine transitions to a MD program, all students will complete a research project between years 3-5. Department of GP academics will be supervising two service learning projects, where students undertake a three year commitment to participating in a community outreach service program, and writing up their learning about this. One student will be working alongside Dr Miriam Brooks in a women's health literacy collaboration with Parramatta Community Migrant Resource Centre, and another student will be supporting Dr Penny Abbott and Dr Dena Attala (who was previously our academic registrar) working with Justice Health to look at the needs of people in prison around treatment of substance use disorders.

## NEPEAN BLUE MOUNTAINS AFTERHOURS TELEHEALTH PILOT IN RESIDENTIAL AGED CARE FACILITIES

We recently completed interviews with residents/guardians, GPs, aged care facility staff and the My Emergency Doctor telehealth provider. We will be using this qualitative data with quantitative data that will be available shortly to evaluate the program which aimed to provide better outcomes including reduced ambulance calls, ED presentation and hospital admission, and reduced GP burden.

## SOUTH WESTERN SYDNEY MY CARE PARTNERS EVALUATION

We have recently been contracted to conduct a mixed method evaluation on the My Care Partners program in South Western Sydney which is a partnership between the Primary Health Network and Local Health District. This is a "medical neighbourhood" model of care, to address Potentially Preventable Hospitalisations of at-risk patients in South Western Sydney. It is centred around shared responsibility through team-based care with ongoing GP clinical governance. This evaluation will be conducted over the next two years.

## QUEST PHC – QUALITY EQUITY AND SYSTEMS TRANSFORMATION IN PRIMARY HEALTH CARE

QUEST PHC builds on work identifying indicators and measures of high quality in general practice undertaken in collaboration with WentWest, Nepean Blue Mountains and South West Sydney PHNs. Over the next two years Jenny will be leading research funded by the Digital Health Cooperative Research Centre in collaboration with 8 PHNs and other stakeholders including consumers, government and professional organisations. We will use a modified Delphi approach to review and revise the original indicators and measures and will convene workshops with consumers as well as with leaders in the Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Sector and with prison health representatives to consider the relevance of the agreed indicators and measures in those settings.

## New Publications

1. **Fung T, Abbott P, Arora A, George A, Villarosa A, Reath J** (2020) Oral health care in urban general practice: what are the support and training needs? Australian Journal of Primary Health (in press)
2. **Cosgriff D, Reath J, Abbott P.** (2020) Why do people with long-term health needs see more than one GP?: a qualitative study Australian Journal of Primary Health. <https://doi.org/10.1071/PY20179>
3. **Trankle SA, Usherwood T, Abbott P, Roberts M, Crampton M, Girgis CM, Riskallah J, Chang J, Saini J, Reath J.** Key stakeholder experiences of an integrated healthcare pilot in Australia: a thematic analysis BMC Health Services Research (2020) 20:925 <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12913-020-05794-2>
4. **Rupasinghe M, Reath J, Abbott P** (2020). 'Have we got the right focus in asthma care in general practice? - a qualitative study. Australian Journal of General Practice (in press).
5. **Reath J, Tan L, Brooks M, Burges J, Lindsay N, Lo W, Shakur S, Trankle SA, Wong KC.** (2020) "One medical schools experience of sustaining general practice teaching in the time of COVID19." Australian Journal for General Practitioners. <https://doi.org/10.31128/AJGP-COVID-29>




# Research Updates

# Our Communities


## UNDERSTANDING THE IMPACT OF TELEHEALTH IN AUSTRALIAN PRIMARY CARE DURING COVID

### Telehealth in Australian Primary Care during COVID-19







GPs, practice nurses and allied health professionals working in the community;  
**How has telehealth impacted you during COVID-19?**

- The purpose of the survey is to understand how primary care providers have used telehealth during COVID, its barriers and facilitators, and future uses.
- Data will provide important insights that can inform current policy and practice, as well as post-pandemic reflections on telehealth implementation.
- Complete the online survey at: [https://uow.au1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_eV7OTMnXYXQIA6V](https://uow.au1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_eV7OTMnXYXQIA6V) and share the link with your colleagues.



**INVESTIGATORS**  
Dr Anna Willams (University of Notre Dame Aus), A/Professor Sarah Dennis (USyd), Professor Mark Morgan & Professor Nick Zwar (Bond Uni) and Professor Liz Halcomb (UOW)

 UNIVERSITY OF WOLLONGONG AUSTRALIA THE UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME AUSTRALIA BOND UNIVERSITY THE UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY

In 2020 all community events were postponed due to COVID, however we are excited to be partnering with Community Migrant Resource Centre <https://cmrc.com.au/> to plan for ongoing student service learning projects that will commence next year with a focus on women's health literacy. Also from 2021 onwards, the GP department will be supervising student service learning projects in Justice Health settings around Western Sydney, facilitating health literacy discussions with people in prison. These projects reflect the GP department's commitment to promoting health equity and social justice in our communities. Read more under student research!

## DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL PRACTICE ACADEMIC & RESEARCH STAFF

### DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL PRACTICE ACADEMIC & RESEARCH STAFF

**Professor Jenny Reath**

Peter Brennan Chair of General Practice  
(02) 4620 3725 | 0412 586 135  
j.reath@westernsydney.edu.au

**Dr Penny Abbott**

Associate Professor (Tues/Wed)  
(02) 4620 3560  
p.abbott@westernsydney.edu.au

**Dr Miriam Brooks**

Senior Lecturer (Tue/Fri)  
(02) 4620 3896  
miriam.brooks@westernsydney.edu.au

**Dr Lawrence Tan**

Senior Lecturer (Tue/Fri)  
(02) 4620 3896  
lawrence.tan@westernsydney.edu.au

**Dr Winston Lo**

Senior Lecturer (Mon/Fri)  
(02) 4620 3561 | 0403 163 868  
w.lo@westernsydney.edu.au

**Dr Steven Trankle**

Associate Research Fellow  
0408 407 600  
s.trankle@westernsydney.edu.au

**Dr Olivia Missiakos**

Academic Registrar  
(Mon/Wed/Fri morning)

**Dr Tasnuba Pervez**

Academic Registrar  
(Tues/Thurs/Fri)

**Dr Yvonne An**

Academic Registrar  
(Tue/Wed morning/Fri)

**Ms Robyn Walsh**

Clinical Trial Coordinator  
0450 272 007  
r.walsh@westernsydney.edu.au

**Ms Courtney Weston**

Research Officer Clinical Trials  
C.Weston2@westernsydney.edu.au

### PROFESSIONAL STAFF

**Ms Vicki Bradley**

Administrative Officer (Mon-Thurs)  
(02) 4620 3896 | 0412 189 965  
v.bradley@westernsydney.edu.au

**Mrs Sharon Lawrence**

Administrative Officer (Tues-Fri)  
(02) 4620 3933 | 0450 778 075  
s.lawrence@westernsydney.edu.au

**Ms Nicole King (WATCH Trial)**

Administrative Officer (Mon-Wed)  
(02) 4620 3562  
n.king@westernsydney.edu.au

**Contact information**

1300 897 669  
study@westernsydney.edu.au

Western Sydney University  
Locked Bag 1797  
Penrith NSW 2751 Australia



**WESTERNSYDNEY.EDU.AU**