Beyond Practice
The GP Unit at Fairfield Hospital

General Practice is the heart of the health system. Part of what we do at the GP Unit is to strengthen and support you in your crucial job of caring for your patients. Some of the things we are doing are:

- working with the Fairfield Hospital Emergency Department, Ambulatory Care and Connecting Care services to integrate care with general practice
- liaising with the Local Health District and Fairfield Hospital to connect them with general practice
- carrying out research into local chronic disease care, your needs in cancer care, the connection between academic performance and the health of local students
- establishing an electronic practice based research network
- providing high quality training to GP registrars and UNSW students
- providing monthly CPD seminars for you on relevant topics

You can read about these things and more in this edition of Beyond Practice. I would love to hear from you if you have any suggestions, comments, complaints or compliments to help us help you.

Prof Siaw-Teng Liaw

Meet the GP Unit team....

I joined the GP Unit in 2002 and now lead the clinic here. I supervise GP registrars, see patients, teach UNSW medical student and try to find time for a PhD looking at the impact of absolute cardiovascular risk assessment on GP prescribing. When not at work, I am a keen tennis player and to balance the physical activity I do enjoy putting the feet up in front of the TV. I am currently looking forward to Mad Men Season 5!

I started as a half time staff specialist in January. I have been in practice in Katoomba since 1998 and combined this with teaching in the GP training program and quality improvement work with the Australian Primary Care Collaborative program. I am looking forward to increasing my involvement in academic work with a particular focus on supporting local practices in South West Sydney

I started life as a physio in the UK and moved into primary care research leading to a PhD in 2003. My family and I arrived in Australia just in time to see England win the 2003 Rugby World Cup! I have been involved in projects in COPD, asthma, the ePBRN and integration between secondary and primary care. I am particularly keen on our new work at Ashcroft High looking at health and schooling.

August 2012

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Unlock Your Practice Data

Have you ever wondered how many active patients you have on your database? How many people have diabetes? What is your management of diabetes like? There is so much useful data on your practice server that could improve your practice and the health of the community overall. You can unlock the contribution of your data by joining the ePBRN.

**WHAT IS IT?** The ePBRN is a network of computerised general practices joined with some other health providers. Five practices and the Fairfield Diabetes Clinic have already joined the network.

When you join you agree to the secure extraction of patient clinical data (containing no identifiable information) for clinical, research, audit, teaching and evaluation purposes in an ethics approved university environment.

ePBRN research is being used to improve the quality of clinical records and integrated care with the initial focus on diabetes care.

**YOU WILL RECEIVE** bi-yearly practice reports on data quality and the key indicators for patient health records based on the RACGP Standards for General Practices (4th edition)

We are also applying for a RACGP Category 1 QI activity.

**PARTICIPATION** involves the installation of extraction software onto a networked computer, a short questionnaire and 3 interviews / meetings over 18 months to discuss the practice reports.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION** contact

Jane Taggart:  
j.taggart@unsw.edu.au,  
(02) 9616 8520 or 9385 1511 or Prof. Siaw-Teng Liaw:  
siaw@unsw.edu.au,  
(02)9616 8520

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Yellow Fever Vaccination

Did you know the GP Unit is an accredited Yellow Fever Vaccination Provider along with a few other providers in Fairfield LGA? These are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Practice Name</th>
<th>Contact Number</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bonnyrigg Family Medical Centre</td>
<td>98230188</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fairfield Chase Medical Centre</td>
<td>97235555</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family District Medical Centre</td>
<td>97573300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The GP Unit Fairfield Hospital</td>
<td>96168520</td>
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</tbody>
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1Countries/areas where “a risk of yellow fever transmission is present,” as defined by the World Health Organization, are countries or areas where “yellow fever has been reported currently or in the past, plus vectors and animal reservoirs currently exist” (see the current country list within the International Travel and Health publication (Annex 1) at www.who.int/ith/en/index.html).

2These countries are not holoendemic (only a portion of the country has risk of yellow fever transmission).
What do GPs in South West Sydney need to improve integration with cancer services?

In the next few months we will be getting out to speak with some of you about what you need to help you care for your patients coping with cancer. The GP Unit has joined with South Western Sydney Cancer Services, the Ingham Institute and the South Western Sydney Medicare Local to find out what will make a difference at the grass roots general practice level. A research grant from the NSW Cancer Institute will support this exciting project. It is expected that the project will lead to further work trialling practical changes to support you and your patients.

GP Unit runs Seminars once a month on the fourth Friday of the month for registrars, practicing clinicians and other allied health workers. These Friday seminars are an opportunity for you to learn about practical clinical issues based on evidence. They are also part of the registrar teaching and therefore topics are of interest and relevance to the registrars and practicing clinicians.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Presenter</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>31/08/2012</td>
<td>Improving diabetes care in General Practice</td>
<td>Dr Andrew Knight Staff Specialist, GP Unit</td>
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<tr>
<td>28/09/2012</td>
<td>Cardiovascular risk assessment in general practice</td>
<td>Dr Sanjyot Vagholkar Staff Specialist, GP Unit</td>
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<tr>
<td>26/10/2012</td>
<td>Metabolic Management Program</td>
<td>Megan Forsythe, Acting CDMPP Co-ordinator, South Western Sydney Medicare Local</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23/11/2012</td>
<td>Fairfield Orthopaedic Hip and Knee Service</td>
<td>Danella Hackett, Senior Physiotherapist, Musculoskeletal Coordinator, Fairfield Hospital</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Meet Dr Harry Doan Director of A and E

I have lived in the Sydney South Western area for all of my Australian life, and feel honoured to be in a position where I can service the local community.

I was a refugee arriving in Australia in 1979. Both parents worked hard to provide enough for our family. Along with my brother and sister, we attended public schooling. I was fortunate enough to have been offered a position at Sydney University for an undergraduate medical degree.

My internship was at Nepean hospital in 1997 and have subsequently worked at Liverpool and Campbelltown where I did most of my postgraduate training. I was appointed Emergency Director of Fairfield Hospital in March 2012.

At Fairfield Emergency Department we see 90-120 patients a day. We treat all adult, paediatric, obstetric and gynaecology emergencies. Subspecialties of urology, neurosurgery, ENT, vascular, ophthalmology, gastroenterology and orthopaedics require referral to Liverpool.

Please call ED admitting phone on 96168140 prior to sending patients to hospital. I encourage feedback about your patients during their stay at Fairfield Hospital. Please contact me regarding any issues on 96168145 or email harry.doan@sswahs.nsw.gov.au

The Ambulatory Care (AC) - serving you and your patients in Fairfield

AC was set up 9 years ago to reduce hospital admissions in Fairfield Hospital. It is a specialist service and will only see patients referred from GPs, EDs, Specialists and inpatient teams.

Sharing of care with GPs is mandatory in patient care.

AC provides the following services:

ADULT AMBULATORY CARE (THE MAIN SERVICE):

- Administration of intravenous antibiotics, injections and infusions.
- Intravenous cannulation
- Insertion of PICC line
- Management of Central line

- Warfarin Clinic
- Blood transfusions and blood product support, including immunoglobulin
- Minor medical procedures
- Therapeutic venescion
- Rehydration such as for Hypermesis Gravidarum
- Fall prevention clinic
- Wound clinic
- Management & providing acute care to nursing home clients in their own environment
- BCG bladder irritation
- Early supported discharge

PAEDIATRIC AMBULATORY CARE:

- Administration of intravenous (IV) antibiotics and injections and infusions
- Intravenous cannulation
- Management of central line
- Blood transfusions and blood product support, including immunoglobulin.
- Iron infusion
- Venesection
- Rehydration
- Burns clinic
- Early supported discharge

Doctor to doctor communication in welcomed. You can also fax your referral to 96168406.

For further information please do not hesitate to contact AC on 96168999.

HOW CAN WE HELP YOU? FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON OUR SERVICES OR ANY OTHER ASPECT OF THIS NEWSLETTER PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE TO CONTACT US ON 96168520