



## **June 2019**

Welcome to the winter edition of the Mercy Health Primary Care Liaison Newsletter. In this edition, there are a number of important updates about our health services.

Firstly, we welcomed our new Ambulatory, Community & Allied Health Program Director, Erin Wilson to our team on 17 June. Erin is a qualified physiotherapist, holds a Masters of Public Health and has over 15 years' clinical and management experience in public and private health. Erin joins us from Eastern Health, having held previous leadership roles in specialty medicine, ambulatory care, allied health, quality and clinical operations.

At Werribee Mercy Hospital we are now accepting surgical patients who have a body mass index (BMI) of up to 50. This does not apply to obstetric patients.

We have welcomed a new dictation service that will improve communications with our GPs. We are also continuing to emphasise the importance of the flu vaccine for our patients across all our health services.

At Mercy Health O'Connell Family Centre in Canterbury, we have completed a review of our services and a long-term plan. The plan is informed by the Victorian Government's new policy directions relating to children and families. If you would like to know more about our early parenting service, please visit the [website](#) or contact the centre directly on 8416 7600.

This is yet another busy year at Mercy Health, as we are sure it is for primary care providers. We look forward to continuing to partner with you.

### **Erin Wilson**

Program Director, Ambulatory, Community and Allied Health  
Mercy Hospitals Victoria Ltd

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## Werribee Mercy Hospital appoints new Director of Surgery

In April this year, Werribee Mercy Hospital appointed Mr Iain Skinner as the new Director of Surgery at Werribee Mercy Hospital.

Ian is a passionate surgeon and advocate for the Wyndham community. Since completing his surgical training and Colorectal Fellowship in 2001, he has been a practising specialist colorectal surgeon, in both public and private hospitals in Melbourne's west.

Ian has held an honorary position through the University of Melbourne at the North West Academic Centre. He is a member of the Surgical Gastrointestinal Endoscopy Committee within the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons, a member of the Conjoint Committee for the Recognition of Training in Gastrointestinal Endoscopy, the National Colonoscopy Recertification Committee and recently co-chaired the National Colonoscopy Clinical Care Standard working group for the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care.





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## Colonoscopy Clinical Care Standard: pilot project

Werribee Mercy Hospital is one of four hospitals piloting the new Colonoscopy Clinical Care Standard. The new standard was developed by the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care to ensure the safe and appropriate use of colonoscopy and to maximise patients' likelihood of benefit from the procedure.

The Colonoscopy Clinical Care (CCC) Standard will be implemented in public and private hospitals and day procedure centres nationally as part of the National Safety and Quality Health Service (NSQHS) Standards. Werribee Mercy Hospital will be identifying changes in practices to meet the requirements of the Colonoscopy Clinical Care Standard under the NSQHS Standards.

The CCC Standard was developed in collaboration with a multidisciplinary expert topic working group including clinicians and consumers, and has been endorsed by ten key professional organisations and colleges including the Royal Australian College of Physicians (RACP), the Gastroenterological Society of Australia (GESA), the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS) and the Colorectal Surgical Society of Australia and New Zealand (CSSANZ).

The CCC will be piloted at Werribee Mercy Hospital until August. It is also being piloted at The Alfred, Brisbane Private Hospital and Liverpool Day Surgery. Pilot sites will conduct a simulated accreditation against the NSQHS Standards to assess feasibility of the Standard.

Please visit [HealthPathways Melbourne](#) for a guide to colonoscopy referrals at Werribee Mercy Hospital.

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## Perinatal mental health seminar

### The art and science of diagnosing, prescribing, accessing and integrating services

This 90-minute seminar will provide primary, maternity and mental healthcare providers with a comprehensive update of the latest research and clinical issues relating to diagnosing, prescribing and coordinating health services in the perinatal period.

The seminar will begin with a clinical case presentation which looks at the main issues facing clinicians in their everyday practice. The speakers will then navigate the course of care and the issues that the case presents.

The seminar will equip participants with the most up-to-date knowledge and tools to manage women who present with mental health needs during the perinatal period.

Please contact [primarycare@mercy.com.au](mailto:primarycare@mercy.com.au) to register your interest for this free event.

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## Shared maternity care

### Re-accreditation as a shared maternity care provider for 2020-22

Shared maternity care providers are required to demonstrate ongoing education in pregnancy and postnatal care during 2017-19 to obtain re-accreditation for 2020-2022. This requires a minimum of 10 category-two continuing professional development (CPD) points in pregnancy and postnatal care education, which is equivalent to five hours.



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## Update of maternity referral form

The western region maternity referral form has been updated.

If you are referring your pregnant patients to any of the western region's public maternity providers (Werribee Mercy Hospital, Western Health or Djerriwarrh Health Services), please use the updated form. Please remember to include all of the required information such as all tests and investigations.

The form is available in Microsoft Word and editable PDF. We will soon have this in RTF formats for MedicalDirector, Best Practice and Zedmed software.

Please refer to [our website](#) to access the latest version. Please remove all old electronic or hard copies you may have stored

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## GP education program

Mercy Health strives to deliver first class education to our primary care providers. We are facilitating an evening education program this year, including a shared maternity care workshop and a gynaecology workshop. Further information and bookings will be available shortly.

Please join us for the Mercy Perinatal Mental Health Symposium 2019 to be held at the beautiful Park Hyatt, Saturday 3 August 2019. The symposium is not just about depression and anxiety; we will also be addressing those many heart-sinking 'what do I do now?' moments familiar to all of us in clinical life.

More specifically, the symposium will include the following topics.

### Screening, support and 'what happens next'?

- *Living in fear: effective screening and intervention for family violence.* We are incredibly lucky to have Professor Kelsey Hegarty joining us as a



keynote speaker. Kelsey is one of the world leaders in the area of family violence.

### **Trauma and tragedy**

- *Good grief or Post Natal Depression? Recognising the difference, and managing perinatal bereavement well.* Red Nose CEO and psychologist Dr Karen Ludski will lead this special session on dealing with bereaved parents.
- *Unpacking the traumatic birth: the role of the trauma team.* Professor Stephen Tong asks 'How do we debrief and support women best after a traumatic birth to optimise their mental health?'

### **It's complicated: challenging exposures, challenging personalities**

- *It's more than the ice age: a walk through substance use in pregnancy.* Facilitated by Mercy Hospital for Women Head of Transitions Clinic Dr Carol Vance.
- *Helping hard patients: managing borderline personality disorders.* Dr Gaynor Blankley.

### **Secure your own mask before assisting others: self-care in practice**

- *When R U OK? is not OK: wellness, mental health and determining fitness to practice.* Panel discussion: Dr Alison Fung, Dr Gaynor Blankley and Prof Sue Walker.

We are also planning quick, clinician-friendly snack box sessions on depression, anxiety and PTSD for first responders. These sessions will include:

- effective triage
- first aid to patch up until help arrives
- '000': how and when to phone a friend.

# PRIMARY CARE LIAISON NEWSLETTER WERRIBEE MERCY HOSPITAL



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To view the full program and register, go to the [symposium website](#).

## **Tickets**

Midwives, allied health professionals and students: \$200

GPs and specialists: \$250

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## **Primary Care Liaison Unit contact**

Our Primary Care Liaison Unit has offices at Mercy Hospital for Women (Heidelberg) and Werribee Mercy Hospital. This unit supports and develops communication between primary care providers and our hospitals.

Any queries can be directed to Werribee Mercy Hospital Primary Care Liaison Officer Felicity Morrow at [primarycare@mercy.com.au](mailto:primarycare@mercy.com.au) or 8754 3497.

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