



Training Update



Director of Education and Training mid-term update

I hope you are all settled into your practice this term, and are starting to see an interesting mix of patients that spark your clinical curiosity.

The middle of the term is an appropriate time to stop and reflect on what you have learned so far and what you plan to learn over the next half of the term. Usually, by now you have the practice software and referral pathways under control and in the second half of the term, you can focus focus on improving clinical knowledge and patient centredness, as well as looking at ethical and professional components of the consultation and your career as a GP.

Planning learning

Now is an opportune time to use one of your teaching sessions with your supervisor to reflect on how you have been learning. If you use a learning plan to structure your learning, talk to your supervisor about how this is working – has your supervisor noticed any areas you should focus on for the second half of the term? If you don't have a structured learning plan or document then it is even more important to reflect on what you have learnt, how you have identified it and how you intend to learn in the future. In your career as a general practitioner you will need to continually adapt and learn as medicine changes. Setting yourself up well from the beginning is worthwhile.

There are many tools to help you plan your learning; the Learning Plan Module on GPRime2 or the Procedural Log Module is a good place to start, as are the exam preparation resources available on GPRime2 (search 'exam' in 'Forms, Documents & Links').

Competency assessments

At GP Synergy, registrars have formal assessments during training to provide feedback on your progress during training. These assessments are done following observed consultations and are assessed on the GP Synergy Competency Grid. The grid demonstrates when a competency is expected to be achieved by a registrar (e.g. in the first few weeks or in the last few months). Assessments indicate if a registrar's competency is at the expected level, or above or below the expected level across several key areas.

There are two key types of assessments used to assess a registrar's competency during training:

1. Clinical Teaching Visits / MiniCEX

Many of you in GP terms may have recently had your first Clinical Teacher Visit (CTV)/MiniCEX or have one scheduled in the coming weeks. CTVs/MiniCEXs are an important assessment of your competency and progression through training. They involve an experienced GP sitting in and observing you for one session (3 hours). They may also talk with your supervisor and other staff at the practice.

The visiting GP will generate a report and use the assessment grid to indicate your level of competency across a range of areas based on your performance during the visit.

This report is sent to you, your supervisor and your medical educator in the week/s following the visit, and is available on your GPRime2+ portfolio in the 'requirements' section.

2. Formative assessment of registrar by a supervisor (also known as a 'competency assessment')

Competency assessments by your supervisor take place three times a term for GPT1/PRRT1 and GPT2/PRRT2 and twice a term



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for GPT3/PRRT3 and Extended Skills in GP/PRRT4 registrars. The assessment is also based on the competency grid, and indicates your level of competency in several areas. The competency assessment should be completed following observation of one or two consultations and can be part of formal teaching. You will receive a copy when it is completed by your supervisor, and a copy will also be sent to your medical educator, and available on your portfolio. These assessments provide valuable feedback on how you are progressing during the term.

Feedback

We value feedback, as does your supervisor, and we ask you to complete the 'Formative assessment of a supervisor by a registrar' form found on GPRime2 under 'Forms, Documents and Links'. This is required twice per term for GPT1/PRRT1 and GPT2/PRRT2 registrars in GP terms and once by registrars in GPT3/PRRT3 and Extended Skills in GP/PRRT4 terms. This feedback helps improve your experience in training as well as training experiences for other registrars.

If you haven't had a chance to speak to your medical educator this term please make a time to do so. Keeping in touch is important and the medical educators are always happy to talk with you about planning your learning and meeting your learning needs.

Kind regards

Dr Vanessa Moran | Director of Education and Training – NSW and ACT

2017.2 term placement update

From 24 April, registrars who enrolled for a GP term in the second half of the year can apply for GP placements in their allocated grouping via GPRime2.

Important reminders

- Placements will only be confirmed when GP Synergy receives co-signed copies of term placement paperwork through GPRime2. No other method of confirmation will be accepted.
- Once you secure a placement, your application will be automatically withdrawn from any other practices you have applied to.
- Don't forget - there are several term placement resources on GPRime2 to help you including a detailed FAQ document.

If you need assistance

If you require any assistance at any time, please don't hesitate to contact your local education coordinator or Registrar Liaison Officer (RLO). Their contact details can be found at the back of this update.

Key dates



22 May: Competency Assessment due for registrars in first, second and third GP terms and Extended Skills in GP*

29 May: Applications for 2018 academic posts open

23 Jun: Deadline for Medicare provider number paperwork for 2017.2 term

14 July: Applications for 2018 academic posts close

17 July: Competency Assessment due for registrars in first, second and third GP terms and Extended Skills in GP *

6 Aug: End date term 1 2017

7 Aug: Start date term 2 2017

4 Feb: End date term 2 2018

*These dates are indicative only and may vary if a registrar is part-time or commenced a GP term after the first week of term.

South Coast registrar networking dinner

It was great to see so many registrars at the recent networking dinner held in Nowra.

If you would like to know details of upcoming activities, or require any rural support, please contact your local rural support officer.



Exam preparation resources for registrars

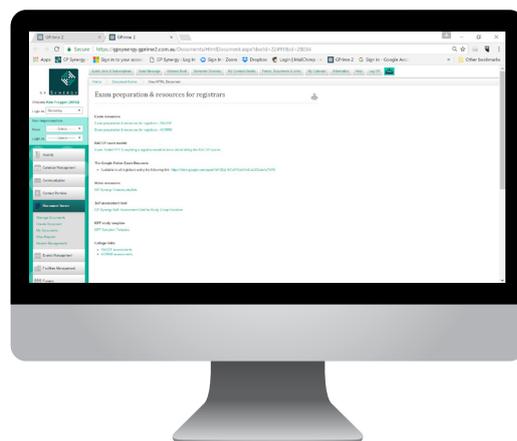
GP Synergy provides a range of different resources to help you prepare for fellowship assessments.

Where to find details of exam resources

A brief summary of some key exam preparation resources is below. For full details, head to GPRime2.

To access exam resources:

1. Go to GPRime2
2. Got to 'Forms, Documents and Links' – top toolbar
3. Search 'exam'



Exam preparation for all GP registrars

- **Google exam resources drive:** This resource is available to all registrars at any stage of training. It has several resources including the Exam Resource Spreadsheet which lists relevant resources (i.e. Check, How to Treat, guidelines, etc) in a matrix based on the BEACH data
- **Self-assessment grid:** This tool allows you to assess the areas which you need to improve on relevant to Australian General Practice. This table has been developed from the WentWest Confidence Self- Assessment Grid.
- **GP Synergy Youtube playlists**

Exam preparation for RACGP registrars

- **KFP symptom template:** This template has been designed as a study aid when preparing for the KFP exam. Similar to a mind map, the idea is to organise your thoughts based on a presenting symptom incorporating Murtagh's safe diagnostic strategy.
- **GP Synergy AKT and KFP mock assessments:** Every six months, GP Synergy registrars sitting the RACGP written exams can participate in a mock AKT and KFP exam, and a KFP answer workshop/webinar. Registrars must be sitting the exam in the coming term to participate.
- **GP Synergy OSCE workshop and mock exam:** Every six months, GP Synergy registrars sitting the RACGP OSCE exam can participate in two extensive OSCE preparation workshops. This includes a full OSCE prep day, and an OSCE mock exam. Registrars must be sitting the exam in the coming term to participate.
- **Mock patients:** If you're not currently sitting your assessments, but would like some early insight, volunteer to be a mock patient at one of the OSCE workshops.
- **RACGP exam DVDs:** GP Synergy has copies of the RACGP exam DVD which can be loaned by GP registrars.

Please note: Registrars will be sent an invite to participate in GP Synergy workshops and must RSVP within the specified timeframe to be eligible to attend.

Exam preparation for ACRRM registrars

- **Mock MCQ online:** A mock online exam for registrars who have enrolled to sit the current exam cycle MCQ.
- **Mock Primary StAMPS:** Registrars who have enrolled to sit the current exam cycle Primary StAMPS or ED StAMPS will be invited to participate in the GP Synergy Mock Primary StAMPS.
- **Mock Case Based Discussion (CBD):** One on one videoconference with a medical educator reviewing two cases. Registrars enrolled in CBD for the semester can participate.
- **ACRRM exam workshops/initiatives:** GP Synergy provides financial support for registrars enrolled in the current exam cycle to participate in ACRRM StAMPS Mock Exam Workshop and ACRRM StAMPS study groups.

Please note: Registrars will be sent an invite to participate in GP Synergy workshops and must RSVP within the specified timeframe to be eligible to attend.

For further information or assistance (for registrars)

- view the 'Exam Preparation Resources' page on GPRime2
- contact your ME
- contact the relevant event coordinator for workshop queries:
 - Shirleen Chand for GP Synergy RACGP exam workshop queries on shirleen_chand@gpsynergy.com.au
 - Claire Doyle for GP Synergy ACRRM exam workshop queries on claire_doyle@gpsynergy.com.au.

Academic posts – EOIs now open for 2018

Expressions of Interest (EOIs) are now open for 2018 academic posts.

The formal application period for academic posts will open from 29 May to 14 July 2017.

Registrars considering applying are required to contact GP Synergy's medical educator that oversees the academic portfolio, [Dr Parker Magin](#), as early on in the process as possible to find out how an academic post works, why it might be good for you, and to start working on the application (in collaboration with your prospective supervisor). You also need to contact your Academic Department / supervisor early.

How to apply

Expressions of interest are to be made to your fellowship college – either ACRRM and/or RACGP. Each college has information about academic posts on their website, with details about how to apply including key dates:

- [ACRRM website](#)
- [RACGP website](#)

University academic post contacts

A list of academic staff contacts at NSW and ACT universities can be found on GPRime2, under 'Forms, Documents and Links', under the 'Academic Policy and Resources'. If you are logged into GPRime2 you can access these resources via the following link:

<https://gpsynergy.gprime2.com.au/Documents/HtmlDocument.aspx?docId=21562&id=25172&latest=true>

GP Synergy Academic Post Information Webinar

GP Synergy will be hosting a webinar for GP registrars interested in finding out more about academic post opportunities for 2018 and beyond. The webinar will include an overview of academic posts and how to apply, presented by Dr Parker Magin, with presentations from universities across NSW and ACT.

Date: Wed 31 May

Time: 7.00pm-9.00pm

RSVP: To register go to <https://gpsynergy.zoom.us/webinar/register/037354fbcd56f59e4ac87b605f06faf5>

For further information:

If you have any queries about academic posts, please don't hesitate to contact Dr Parker Magin on parker_magin@gpsynergy.com.au or 1300 477 963 or 0408 953 872.

New Cert IV education program for Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Service (ACCHS) staff



GP Synergy, in collaboration with TAFE OTEN, has launched a new Certificate IV in Training and Assessment, customised to meet the needs of Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Service (ACCHS) staff in areas of cultural safety.

The nationally recognised course is the only one of its kind and will enable participants to deliver cultural safety training in their own services, ensuring health care professionals improve the care of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people by creating culturally safe environments.

Staff from ACCHS facilities as far afield as Griffith Aboriginal Medical Service, Yerin Aboriginal Health Services (Wyang), Tobwabba Aboriginal Medical Service (Forster), Orange Aboriginal Medical Service, Galambila Aboriginal Health Services (Coffs Harbour) and Armajun Aboriginal Health Service (Armidale and Inverell), met in Sydney for the first three days of the course at the end of April.

Jane Lennis from Galambila Aboriginal Health Service is undertaking the course to develop her training and development skills to better support staff development in the workplace.

"There are three of us from Galambila doing the course; we'll be able to work together on developing in-house training that will have a direct correlation to skills development in our Aboriginal health workforce," she said.

Following the first block of the Certificate IV course was the first component of the GP Synergy/TAFE OTEN Practice Management Diploma for AMS facilities. Now in its third year, the diploma continues to attract strong interest from participants across NSW and ACT with 20 staff joining the 2017 program.

For further information about either program, please contact GP Synergy Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Education Unit Manager, Darren Green on darren_green@gpsynergy.com.au



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Upcoming GP Synergy events

GPT1/PRRT1 and GPT2/ PRRT2 registrar workshops

- Western NSW Node 2: 10-12 May, Wagga Wagga
- Lower Eastern NSW Node 2: 11-12 May, Wollongong
- North Eastern NSW Node 1: 19-20 June, and one Saturday (date and location TBA).
- North Eastern NSW Node 3: 2 June, Newcastle
- North Eastern NSW Node 4: 17 May, Little Bay
- All nodes: 21-23 June, Fusion Workshop, Sydney

Exam preparation:

- GP Synergy RACGP exam preparation workshops are now underway for registrars sitting the exams in 2017/2 only. Please email Shirleen Chand for further information: shirleen_chand@gpsynergy.com.au
- GP Synergy ACRRM assessment preparation workshops are currently underway. Please email Claire Doyle for further information: claire_doyle@gpsynergy.com.au

Upcoming activities of interest

- Cremorne GP Group | Last Tuesday every month | Cremorne | [More information](#)
- FPAA National Certificate in Reproductive and Sexual Health for Doctors | 13-14 May & 24-25 Jun & 29 & 30 Jul | Canberra | [More information](#)
- Australian Association for Adolescent Health - Youth Health Conference | 6-7 July | Sydney | [More information](#)
- NSW Health and RACGP run regular webinars about immunisation related topics. Previous webinars and resources can be accessed at <http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation/Pages/webinar.aspx>
- New England Division of General Practice – GP Obstetrics Update | 5 June | Armidale | [More information](#)
- New England Division of General Practice - Aged care challenges - Assessment and referral - getting it right in the new system | 10 August | Armidale | [More information](#)

For further information please see the [External Education Activity Noticeboard](#)

Fellowship assessment enrolment

ACRRM fellowship assessments:

- 2017/2: Assessment enrolment closes 9 June 2017

For more information visit the [ACRRM website](#).

RACGP fellowship assessments:

- 2017/2 AKT/KFP: Enrolments close 19 May 2017
- 2017/2 OSCE: Enrolments close 15 September 2017

For further information visit the [RACGP website](#).

Need some help?

Education Coordinators

- **Central, Eastern and South Western Sydney:**
Sesil Almendralo - 02 8321 4056
sesil_almendralo@gpsynergy.com.au
- **Hunter, Manning and Central Coast:**
Heidi Heinz - 02 8321 4238
heidi_heinz@gpsynergy.com.au
- **Nepean, Western and Northern Sydney:**
Kym Cashen - 02 8321 4112
kym_cashen@gpsynergy.com.au
- **New England/Northwest:**
Natasha Junge - 02 8321 4015
natasha_junge@gpsynergy.com.au
- **North Coast:**
Joanne Sayer - 02 8321 4128
joanne_sayer@gpsynergy.com.au
- **Western NSW:**
Grace Murray - 02 8321 4214
grace_murray@gpsynergy.com.au
- **Murrumbidgee and ACT:**
Catherine Daly - 02 8321 4149
catherine_daly@gpsynergy.com.au
- **South Eastern NSW:**
Sonia Cattley - 02 8321 4028
sonia_cattley@gpsynergy.com.au

Registrar Liaison Officers (RLO)

- **Western NSW:**
Hugh Le Lievre - RLO_western@gpsynergy.com.au
- **Nepean, Western and North Western Sydney:**
Sama Balasubramanian –
RLO_NESydney@gpsynergy.com.au
- **Hunter New England Central Coast:**
Bob Vickers - RLO_HNECC@gpsynergy.com.au
- **Central, Eastern and South Western Sydney:**
Rebekah Hoffman - RLO_LESydney@gpsynergy.com.au
- **South Eastern NSW:**
Jessica Swann - RLO_SouthEastern@gpsynergy.com.au
- **North Coast:**
Jessica McEwan -
RLO_Northcoast@gpsynergy.com.au
- **Murrumbidgee and ACT:**
Jessica Tidemann -
RLO_MurrumACT@gpsynergy.com.au



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