



Training Update



Update from Regional Head of Education - Nepean, Western and Northern Sydney

Welcome to the 2017.2 term of GP training in the Nepean, Western and Northern Sydney region!

As you begin your term, I encourage you to think about how to make the most of your training experience. What would you like to learn during this term? How can you gain the most beneficial experience from the unique practice or hospital setting in which you are working?

For those registrars currently doing hospital terms, consider how your experience will be relevant from a general practice perspective. If you are keen for some additional education, you can undertake many free online modules through RACGP GP Learning website. These modules will help focus your learning on the general practice relevant aspects of your training experience.

If you are entering a general practice term, it is important to have a good orientation with your practice manager or supervisor. Each practice is unique in its functioning and a good orientation can prevent many moments of uncertainty in how to approach a task or where to access help when needed. For those of you entering your first general practice term, I warmly welcome you to the diverse world of general practice!

Have you met with your supervisor to plan your learning for the coming term? It is helpful to consider your own strengths and weaknesses as you enter this term. I encourage you to use one of your early teaching sessions to discuss your learning plan for the term with your supervisor.

The Nepean, Western and Northern Sydney region has an experienced and diverse team of medical educators. You can contact your medical educator for advice on your training plan and for support needed during your GP training. The other member of our team you need to know is Kym Cashen, our education coordinator. Kym can assist you in understanding the administrative requirements of training.

Dr Catherine Casey

Regional Head of Education – Nepean, Northern and Western Sydney

Important training reminders



- **Formative assessments:** Please ensure you have submitted a Formative Assessment on your GP supervisor from the 2017.1 term
- **Practice logs:** Please ensure you have submitted all your practice logs from the 2017.1 term if you were in GPT1/2/3/ES in GP or Mandatory Elective. You will not be able to re-enrol for the 2018.1 term unless all terms are submitted.
- **Research module:** The Research Module is due before completion of GPT2 (if you started GPT1 in 2017.1) and before completion (if you started GPT1 in 2016.1).



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Have you tried SupportGPT – the online in-practice teaching tool for supervisors and registrars?

SupportGPT is an online in-practice teaching resource for supervisors, and registrars in their first or second GP term.

When undertaking your learning and supervision planning with your supervisor, registrars in their first or second GP term are encouraged to review the modules and consider which ones might be useful.

What's included in SupportGPT?

SupportGPT has many features:

- 1. Registrar modules:** There are 16 modules that can be completed by registrars prior to an in-practice teaching session, and activities that can be completed during in-practice face-to-face teaching time with their supervisor.
- 2. Weekly in-practice teaching planner:** This planner can be used in a flexible manner and may be used by a supervisor to guide in-practice weekly teaching sessions.
- 3. ResourceGPT:** An index of over 1,300 clinical resources which are searchable and can be used in any order as problems present.

Who can access SupportGPT?

SupportGPT is only accessible by registrars in their first or second GP term.

How can you access SupportGPT?

1. Login to GPRime2
2. Go to the 'Quick Links' tab in the top toolbar
3. Select 'SupportGPT'

How can you find out more about using SupportGPT?

1. View the [SupportGPT flyer](#)
2. View the [5-minute instructional video](#)

Both resources are also available in GPRime2 under 'Forms, Documents and Links'. Just search 'SupportGPT'.

Examples of how to use SupportGPT



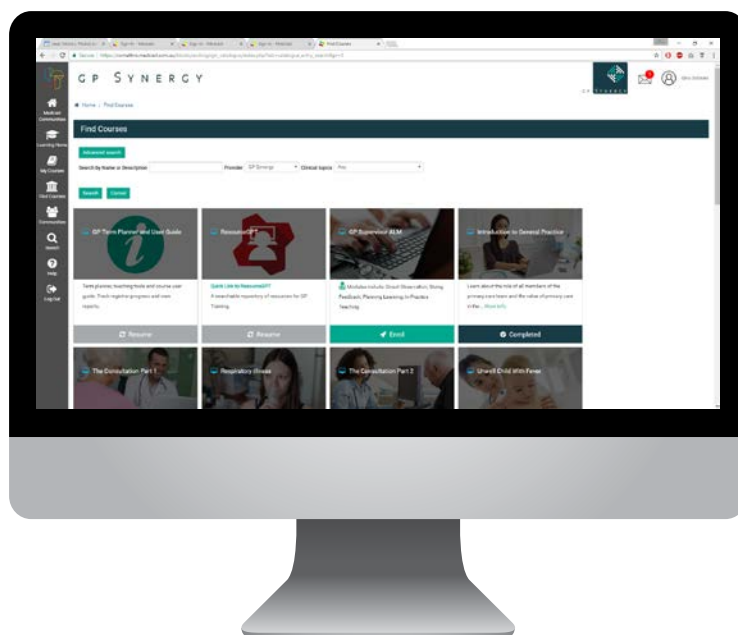
Registrar Michael

Michael's supervisor is really great at helping out with all those little problems as they arise during the day. He is a fountain of knowledge and teaches a lot on the run. Michael is finding that his protected teaching time is not as useful as he would like. He asks the supervisor if they can use the SupportGPT modules and follow the weekly activities outlined in the term planner. Michael now has a structure to follow which suits his kind of learning. He now has a great learning plan which keeps him on track.



Registrar Tiffany

Tiffany is feeling overwhelmed by all that there is to learn as a registrar. She has heard that the fellowship exams are tough and that some of the exam components have a low pass rate. She is in a large group practice, and the in-practice teaching is often shared with other registrars. She finds a lot of the teaching useful, but sometimes feels that she needs to address her own learning needs a bit better. She works her way through all of the support GPT modules on her own and finds the activities and references very useful.



Medicare provider number reminder



If you are a GP registrar going into a GP term in 2017.2 (Aug- Feb), make sure you check the letter you have received from Medicare advising of your provider number approval.

Please ensure you have been issued with a provider number with full billing rights before you commence billing patients. Registrars with refer and request rights will only be able to refer patients and request investigations for them, until a provider number with full billing rights is received.

Key dates



- 15 Sept:** 2017.2 RACGP OSCE exam enrolment closes
- 18 Sept:** 2018.1 RACGP AKT/KFP/OSCE enrolment opens
- 25 Sept*:** Week 8 competency assessment due for registrars in first or second GP terms
- 3 Oct:** 2018.1 re-enrolment opens
- 10 Oct:** 2018.1 re-enrolment closes
- 23 Oct:** Registrars can start applying to practices in their allocated grouping for 2018.1 GP placements
- 22 Jan:** ACRRM 2018.1 assessment/s enrolment closes
- 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.

GP Synergy medical student scholarship recipient gets published

Congratulations to Belinda Watson on being lead author on a paper published in [Australian Family Physician](#)!

The paper is based on the study she undertook as a UNSW recipient of a GP Synergy Medical Student Scholarship in 2016.

Scholarship recipients are supported by GP Synergy to participate in research projects and undertake a community GP placement. Belinda's study investigated older patients and general practice follow-up after an emergency department admission.

There are currently 18 students from universities across NSW and ACT participating in the program. For more information visit [our website](#).

RACGP Foundation Grant success

Congratulations to Prof Parker Magin and Dr Anthea Dallas, both recipients of RACGP Foundation Grants!

Dr Dallas will examine GP registrars' and their supervisors' attitudes to, and experience of, the use of delayed antibiotic prescribing for acute respiratory tract infections through a qualitative study.

Prof Magin's grant is for the AusTAPER (Team Approach to Polypharmacy Evaluation and Reduction) pilot study for older general practice patients.

Looking for a laugh? GP the Musical is coming to Sydney in September

Created by GPs, Drs Gerard Ingham and Genevieve Yates, and directed by A/Prof Katrina Anderson, GP the Musical made its debut at the General Practice Education and Training Conference in 2012, before featuring at the sold-out Melbourne International Comedy Festival in 2013.

The highly popular musical will be hitting the stage again, this time in Sydney at the NIDA studios in September.

Ten GPs from around Australia are involved in the production which includes NSW GP supervisors Drs Linda Mann and Hester Wilson, as well as Regional Head of Education – South Eastern NSW, Dr Allison Miller, and GP Synergy Director of Registrar Education, Dr Anna Sallos.

"Being a part of this has been a great experience!" says Dr Sallos.

"Anyone who has sat in a doctor's waiting room can relate to the play.

"If you want a good laugh and a night out with the family, come along!"

GP the Musical is showing at NIDA in Sydney from 14-17 September 2017. Bookings can be made from [Ticketek](#).

GP registrar swimming the English Channel

Dr Rachele Silver will be swimming solo from Dover, UK to Calais, France in August. She is using her swim across the English Channel to raise funds for an organisation close to her heart – Perinatal Anxiety and Depression Australia (PANDA). PANDA offers the only specialist national perinatal mental health telephone counselling service, as well as reducing stigma around perinatal anxiety and depression, and providing education services to health professionals and the wider community.

You can read more about her amazing feat here: <https://www.mycause.com.au/page/150414/rachele-swims-the-english-channel-for-perinatal-mental-health>



Need some help?

Education Coordinators

- **Central, Eastern and South Western Sydney:**
Sesil Almendrala - 02 8321 4056
sesil_almendrala@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
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- **North Coast:**
Joanne Sayer - 02 8321 4128
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- **Western NSW:**
Rachel Harris - 02 8321 4214
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- **Murrumbidgee and ACT:**
Catherine Daly - 02 8321 4149
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- **South Eastern NSW:**
Amanda Piatek - 02 8321 4164
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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 -
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- **Murrumbidgee and ACT:**
Jessica Tidemann -
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Rural Support Officers (RSO)

- **New England/Northwest | North Coast | Hunter Manning & Central Coast:**
Kerry Robins - kerry_robins@gpsynergy.com.au
- **Western NSW:**
Maria Logan - maria_Logan@gpsynergy.com.au
- **Murrumbidgee:**
Sue Hefren - sue_hefren@gpsynergy.com.au
- **South Eastern NSW:**
April McFadden - april_mcfadden@gpsynergy.com.au

Upcoming GP Synergy events

Registrars in their first or second GP term events:

- Western NSW Node 1: 11-13 Sept, Dubbo
 - Western NSW Node 2: 24 Aug (Half Day), Various | 31 Aug-1 Sept, Dubbo
 - Western NSW Node 3: 24 or 25 Aug (Half Day), Various | 21-22 Sept, Canberra
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- Lower Eastern NSW Node 1: 13 & 19 Sept, Liverpool
 - Lower Eastern NSW Node 2: 13-15 Sept, Wollongong
 - Lower Eastern NSW Node 3: 24 or 25 Aug (Half Day), Various | 21-22 Sept, Canberra
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- North Eastern NSW Node 1: 9 – 11 Oct, Yamba
 - North Eastern NSW Node 2: 11-13 Sept, Armidale
 - North Eastern NSW Node 3: 1 & 22 Sept, Newcastle
 - North Eastern NSW Node 4: 19-20 Sept, Liverpool

Don't forget 2017.2 education dates for registrars going into their first or second GP term are now available – just search 'calendar' under 'Forms, Documents and Links' or head to our [website](#).

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:

Upcoming activities of interest

- NSW Health - Back pain workshop | 16 September | Orange | [More information](#)
- ACRRM - Advanced Life Support (ALS) | 24 September | Pokolbin | [More information](#)
- ACRRM - Rural Emergency Skills Training (REST) | 7-8 October | Canberra | [More information](#)
- ACRRM - Rural Emergency Skills Training (REST) | 25-26 November | Coffs Harbour | [More information](#)

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