Shingles vaccination reminders: A pilot program for general practice

Would you like to improve your recall and reminder system for the uptake of the shingles vaccine in your practice? We’re giving practices the opportunity to trial GoShare Plus, an innovative health promotion tool.

Background

The Shingles vaccine, Zostavax, is available free of charge on the National Immunisation Program (NIP) for patients in Australia aged 70-79 years. 50 per cent of patients in this age group haven’t received the shingles vaccine.

Aims

This pilot program will provide general practices an efficient recall and reminder system that sends preventative health resources by SMS to help increase the uptake of the shingles vaccine, Zostavax by eligible patients.

**What will your practice receive?**

* Access to [GoShare Plus](https://healthily.com.au/goshareplus/), an integrated recall and reminder system within CAT4, to generate a list of unvaccinated patients.
* Functionality to send eligible patients an SMS with an embedded link to an information video, fact sheet and website.
* Ongoing support from [Healthily](https://healthily.com.au/) including online training and resources.
* GoShare Plus license and the Shingles Pilot content bundle (valued at $129 – single campaign), and SMS credits for all eligible patients @0.25c per credit (2 credits are used per Shingles pilot SMS message).

What are the benefits for your practice?

* Enhance practice systems by utilising an efficient recall and reminder system.
* Improve the health literacy of patients.
* Increase the uptake of the shingles vaccination for patients aged 70-79 years.
* Improve patient outcomes by reduce the risk of shingles amongst your patient population.
* Promote and maintain a culture of quality learning in your practice.
* Enhance patient-centred strategies in your practice.

Practice participation requirements

**All general practices that participate in the project will be required to:**

* Report the number of patients sent a shingles reminder SMS bundle.
* Report the number of unvaccinated patients at three months and six months.

**Practice eligibility criteria**

**To be eligible for this activity, general practices must:**

* Be located within the North Western Melbourne Primary Health Network (NWMPHN) catchment area.
* Using CAT4 with Best Practice, Zedmed, Genie, Medtech, practiX, Communicare, MMEX or PCIS.

**How to apply and more information**

**Complete the application form and return by email to:**

Carlia Bennardo

Program Support Officer, Primary Health Care Improvement

North Western Melbourne Primary Health Network

**P**: 03 9347 1188

**E:** primarycare@nwmphn.org.au

**Applications close at 5:00pm on Friday, 6 March 2020.**

For further information call Dr Tina Campbell at Healthily on 03 9534 7222.

**Approximate timelines and activities**

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| **Activity** | **Date** |
| Applications open | January 2020 |
| Applications close | February 2020 |
| Practices selected by project selection panel | February 2020 |
| General practices applicants notified | February/March 2020 |
| Participating practices set up with GoShare+ | February/March 2020 |
| 30-minute training webinar for nominated staff member from each Practice | February/March 2020 |
| Practices will use CAT4 to report the number of patients in the target age group who haven’t received the shingles vaccine | March 2020 |
| Use GoShare+ to send Shingles reminder bundle | March 2020 |
| Use CAT4 to assess how many of the target patient group have a shingles vaccination recorded in practice software | June and September 2020 |

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| ABOUT PHNs Funded by the Commonwealth Department of Health, Primary Health Networks (PHN’s) began operation on 1 July 2015 and are responsible for coordinating primary health care and facilitating improved health outcomes in their local community. Melbourne Primary Care Network operates the North Western Melbourne Primary Health Network (NWMPHN). |

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| ABOUT Healthily Pty LtdHealthily specialises in patient education. Healthily has created tools, content and programs to enable health professionals to provide their patients with self-management support, and to empower patients to play a more active role in their health. |

We acknowledge the peoples of the Kulin nation as the Traditional Owners of the land on which our work in the community takes place. We pay our respects to their Elders past and present.

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST: Application

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| **PLEASE COMPLETE YOUR GENERAL PRACTICE DETAILS** |
| NAME OF GENERAL PRACTICE: |
| PROJECT LEAD CONTACT PERSON: |
| CONTACT PHONE: | CONTACT FAX: |
| PRACTICE ADDRESS: |
| CONTACT EMAIL: |

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| **INCLUSION CRITERIA CHECKLIST** |
| Are you able to provide protected time for staff/clinicians to participant in the project? | **Yes** [ ] **No** [ ]  |
| Using CAT4 with Best Practice, Zedmed, Genie, Medtech, practiX, Communicare, MMEX or PCIS | **Yes** [ ] **No** [ ]  |
| Allow the activation GoShare functionality with CAT4, to create GoShare Plus. | **Yes** [ ] **No** [ ]  |
| Report the number of patients sent a Shingles reminder SMS bundle, and the number of patients who subsequently presented to the practice for a Shingles vaccination at 3 months and 6 months | **Yes** [ ] **No** [ ]  |
| Share practice de-identified data with Healthily Pty Ltd and consent to findings collected in the pilot project being used in reporting of results and/or publication in academic journals or conference presentations. | **Yes** [ ] **No** [ ]  |

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| **GENERAL PRACTICE CHARACTERISTICS** |
| PLEASE NOMINATE WHO IN THE PRACTICE WOULD BE INVOLVED: |
| PLEASE OUTLINE THE REASONS WHY YOUR PRACTICE WOULD LIKE TO BE INVOLVED? |
| **Please provide any additional information to support your application** |

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