***Expression of Interest***

Family violence in Melbourne’s north west: The vital role of general practice

Would your practice like to be involved in improving how you identify, respond and refer your patients experiencing family and domestic violence?

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| IN BRIEF  North Western Melbourne Primary Health Network (NWMPHN) is partnering with Professor Kelsey Hegarty from the University of Melbourne [Safer Families Centre](https://www.saferfamilies.org.au/) to offer practices an opportunity to participate in a fully supported five-month quality improvement activity. The approach is to build and sustain greater internal capacity within primary care providers to respond to the high prevalence of family violence-related presentations in primary care. The project team will deliver a comprehensive, practice-based education program tailored to overcome challenges affecting your capacity to respond to family violence.  This opportunity is open to the whole NWMPHN catchment; the initial phase will start with practices in the northern suburbs. Rolling recruitment will occur with the first wave of practices beginning the project between November and December 2020. Project waves will continue to commence throughout 2021. Interested practices with work with our project lead to determine the best starting time for them.  **WHAT’S INVOLVED?**   * Support throughout the project from the NWMPHN project lead and a family violence support worker from a local service. * Three in-practice education sessions delivered by clinical GPs from the Safer Families Centre and a family violence support worker from Northern Specialist Family Violence Services. * Two virtual workshops with other participating practices to provide an understanding of quality improvement methodology, and to support sustainability of practice improvements. * Secondary consult/mentoring support from the Safer Families Centre’s family violence support worker. * Monthly visits from the NWMPHN project lead to support your practice’s selected quality improvement activities.   **You will be supported throughout the project by a dedicated NWMPHN relationship manager.** |

Background

Family violence damages the social and economic fabric of communities as well as the mental and physical health of individual women, men, adolescents and children.

We understand the current pressures facing you and your staff and we know how busy practices can be. However, evidence shows that you have a crucial role to play in preventing family violence. **Estimates are that each full time GP will see up to five women per week with underlying intimate partner violence (for example: presenting with mental health symptoms or chronic pain) but you may be unaware violence is happening in these families.**

Research has found that there is a spike in family violence during major crises and disasters, including the current pandemic and resulting lockdown.

Benefits for your practice

* Incentive payment of $3,000 (+GST) for participating practices that complete the program.
* RACGP-accredited CPD activity opportunity (previously 40 Category 1 points).
* Facilitated learning workshops with subject matter experts.
* Dedicated support from the NWMPHN project lead and a local family violence support worker to help you complete this quality improvement activity.
* Opportunity to share, network and connect with other practices involved in the project.
* Participation in this facilitated quality improvement project will help to meet the requirements for the Practice Incentives Program Quality Improvement Incentive.

How to apply

**Please complete the attached application form and email to** [**primarycare@nwmphn.org.au**](mailto:quotations@nwmphn.org.au)

**If successful, our project lead will work with you to determine when your practice would like to start the project.**

Please direct all queries to:

Irina Basanko  
IQI Project Lead – Family Violence   
North Western Melbourne Primary Health Network  
**Phone**: (03) 9347 1188  
**Email**: [Irina.Basanko@nwmphn.org.au](mailto:Irina.Basanko@nwmphn.org.au)

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| ABOUT PHNs  Funded by the Commonwealth Department of Health, Primary Health Networks (PHNs) 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). |

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST: Eligibility

Primary care pathways to safety

You must be able to tick each of these boxes to be eligible to nominate. Your practice must:

Be located within the NWMPHN region.

Your whole of practice project team available to complete the program for a five-month period (flexible start date – see below\*). These staff will actively participate in the learning workshops, complete quality improvement activities and champion the program in the practice. **Note: Family violence projects are more successful when the whole practice team (including administration, clinical and allied health staff) can be involved in the education and quality improvement activities.**

(**OPTIONAL**) Have a clinical and billing system that is compatible with the PEN CAT data aggregation tool (or agree to have PEN CAT installed), and a data sharing agreement in place (we will arrange this for you).

Have the capacity to undertake whole-of-practice activities that support improvement in family violence detection and support.

Agree to allocate protected time for your project team to attend the CPD workshops, complete quality improvement activities (as chosen by your practice) and to participate in monthly visits from our project lead.

Agree to complete required surveys and reporting.

*\* The first wave of practices will begin the project between November and December 2020. Practices can nominate their preferred start time between November 2020 and October 2021.*

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST: Application

Primary care pathways to safety

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| **Applicant name:** | | | |
| **Name of practice:** | | | |
| **Practice address:** | | | |
| **Company name: ABN:** | | | |
| **Applicant details:** | **Phone:** | **Email:** | |
| **Practice manager details:** | **Phone:** | **Email:** | |
| **Practice principal details:** | **Phone:** | **Email:** | |
| **EXPRESSION OF INTEREST QUESTIONS** | | | **WEIGHTING** |
| 1. **Please provide a brief overview of why your practice would like to participate in this project:** | | | 30% |
| 1. **How will your practice team benefit from participation in this quality improvement project?** | | | 20% |
| 1. **How will your patients benefit from your practice’s participation in this project?** | | | 20% |
| 1. **What barriers do you think may limit your participation in and successful completion of this project? How will you seek to overcome them? (please include the risk/barrier and how you plan to mitigate/overcome the barrier)** | | | 15% |
|  | | |  |
| 1. **How will you plan to make changes sustainable beyond the project?** | | | 15% |
| **ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS** | | | **NON-WEIGHTED** |
| **Please list the name and profession of participating staff members:** | | | - |
| **Please provide any additional information to support your application:** | | | - |

**Please return the completed application form to** [**primarycare@nwmphn.org.au**](mailto:primarycare@nwmphn.org.au)

**As this project will work in a rolling recruitment fashion, applications will remain open until all project places are full. Please submit your application as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.**

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.

