

Breathe easier...

Improving dyspnoea through GP and community care.



You have been invited to participate in the dyspnoea pathway pilot - for people with COPD or CHF

This pilot aims to help people, like you, who have dyspnoea (which means shortness of breath) and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) or heart failure (CHF), to have an overall better quality of life by receiving quality care in your local community.

It will also help your GP and community health providers to better manage your condition and help you to stay out of hospital as much as possible. See over the page for more details.

The Collaborative
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**The Royal
Melbourne
Hospital**


Merri Health
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About the Dyspnoea Pathway Pilot

The aim of this pilot is to:

- Improve patient experience by linking them to a range of health and non-health support services in their community.
- Keep patients out of hospital (if safe to do so).
- If patients do go to hospital, reduce the number of days spent there.
- Support GPs to be able to manage patients in the community.

What does participation in this pilot involve?

Support from your GP

Your GP will help you to manage your condition in the community without you needing to go to hospital as often. Your GP has been provided with a range of information, support and education to help them do this.

Someone to help you find services and support

A 'community navigator' is available for you to discuss what other supports and services you might benefit from and help you access these. For example, you may need assistance to access community services such as My Aged Care, housing assistance, primary care services, or connection to community social or exercise programs.

A survey at the end

We will ask you to complete an anonymous survey for evaluation purposes.



The Collaborative

This project has been developed through the collaborative partnership between Royal Melbourne Hospital, North Western Melbourne Primary Health Network, cohealth and Merri Health. To find out more about other projects, visit thecollaborative.org.au

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Participation is voluntary

Your participation is voluntary, and you may decline if you wish. If you decide to participate and later change your mind, you are free to withdraw from the project at any stage (prior to the collection aggregation, release or publication of non-identifiable data).

If you wish to withdraw from the project, please contact The Collaborative on 9347 1188 or using the emails below.

Privacy

Any information that could identify you will remain confidential. All patient data will be de-identified for reporting purposes. This means you will remain anonymous to anyone that isn't your healthcare or service provider.

Contact us

If you have any questions about the pilot please email thecollaborative@nwmphn.org.au or call North Western Melbourne PHN on (03) 9347 1188.

If you have questions about the community health service or the community navigator please call:

- cohealth: (03) 9448 5844
- Merri Health: (03) 8319 7420

If you have any questions about your health needs please speak to your GP.

