

What is Walrus?

Walrus is a point of care tool to optimise patient care and data quality in your practice. Walrus prompts you about missing data and care opportunities for the patient in real time, during the consultation.

POLAR Walrus can be downloaded to your PC and interacts directly with your clinical software (currently only compatible with Best Practice and Medical Director software).

Benefits

- ✓ In-context decision support tool
- ✓ Integrates into your clinical software workflow to prompt you at the appropriate time with patient specific information
- ✓ Quickly identify programs, MBS items or services that are relevant to your patients
- ✓ Compact and sits neatly on top of your clinical system
- ✓ View your patient's entire journey using Walrus' unique timeline



Walrus guide

This guide provides everything you need to know about Walrus, from how to install, navigate the Walrus interface and metrics used.

Contents

- [Quick overview](#)
- [Installation](#)
- [Walrus Settings](#)
- [Using the Walrus Interface](#)
- [Walrus Content](#)

Risk

Blood Pressure recording required

OPEN

BMI recording required

OPEN

CVD Risk: At Risk

OPEN

HbA1c testing is due for diabetes monitoring care

OPEN

Hospitalisation (HARP) Risk: Low

OPEN

Lipids test required

OPEN

WALRUS

Felix Adams

30/12/1928

94 yo

Quick overview

Before getting started, we suggest watching this [quick video](#) to familiarise yourself with the Walrus set up process.

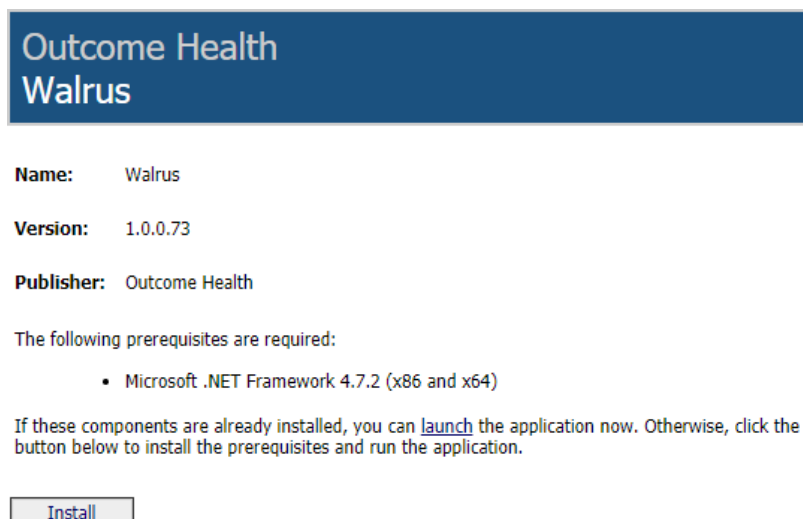
Installation

- To start using Walrus, follow the steps below.
Note – Walrus must be installed on each workstation and it is recommended that each user has their own login account for the tool.

Step 1: Download the Walrus client installer from

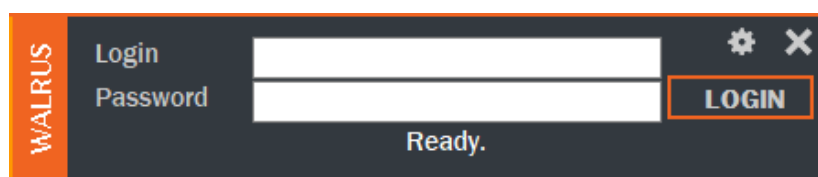
<https://polarexplorer.org.au/Downloads/WalrusClient/setup.exe>

Step 2: Run the installer application, click install.



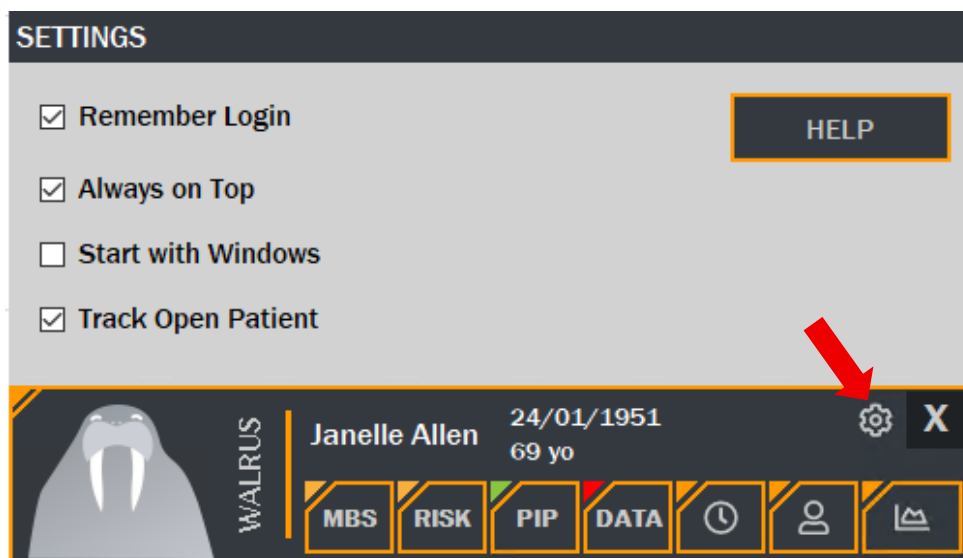
Step 3: When Walrus starts you will be asked to enter your POLAR username and password (your log in details are the same as your POLAR log in details).

Note – if your username has more than 20 characters, you will need to create a new POLAR user with a shorter username. See your POLAR administrator in your practice or contact the PHN for assistance.



- [How to manage POLAR users](#)

Walrus Settings



- **Remember Login:** Will ensure that Walrus remembers your username.
- **Always on Top:** Allow Walrus to stay on top of all windows (including clinical systems).
- **Start with Windows:** Walrus will start on boot.
- **Track Open Patient:** Will stop Walrus from picking up the currently open patient.

Step 4: Before starting to use the tool, it is important to go to the settings wheel and tick the checkboxes 'Remember Login' and 'Start with Windows' to have this tool open automatically whenever the user accesses the clinical software.

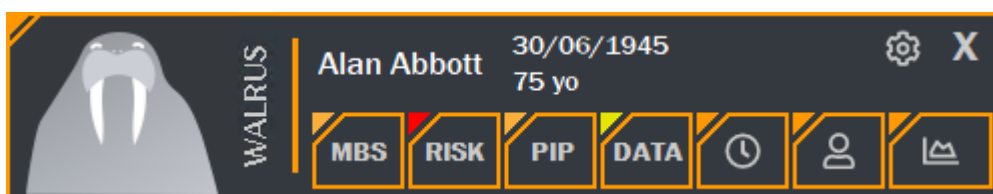
Step 5: Select "Screen Triggering" – this is recommended as it enables the user to enter missing data more efficiently by opening the relevant screen of the clinical software.

Using the Walrus Interface

Walrus Client is an application that is installed onto your PC that will support you at the point of care with patient management. Every day it automatically opens, prompting you to log in with your POLAR credentials.

Once you have logged in and opened a patient record, you will see the following Walrus features:

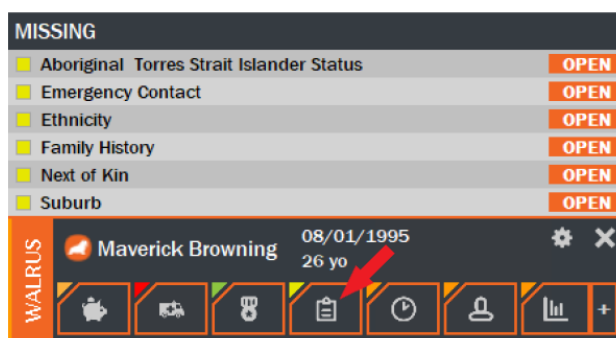
- 1) MBS item notifications
- 2) Risk scores
- 3) PIP QI notifiers
- 4) Missing data notification (clinical and demographic)
- 5) Patient timeline
- 6) Patient record summary
- 7) Clinical graphs



You will also see different coloured 'flags' on the top left hand side of each box. Each colour represents a different level of urgency:

- Green = no data missing or not relevant
- Yellow = data missing - low urgency
- Orange = data missing - medium urgency
- Red = data missing - high urgency

Each tab is clickable and has different information. There are also 'Open' shortcut links, that allow Walrus to take you directly to the relevant section in your clinical system, so you may update the information whilst the patient is in the consultation room.



This [video](#), delivered by EMPHN, provides a great introduction to using Walrus. A detailed explanation of each tab is provided in the next section.

Walrus Content

RISK SCORES

■ CVD Risk: At Risk
■ HARP Risk: Low

INFO

Alan Abbott 30/06/1945
75 yo

MBS RISK PIP DATA

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

1) MBS Eligibility

MBS ELIGIBILITY

■ HMR/RMMR **OPEN**
■ Possibly eligible for new GPMP **OPEN**
■ Possibly eligible for new TCA **OPEN**

Maverick Browning 08/01/1995
26 yo

MBS RISK PIP DATA

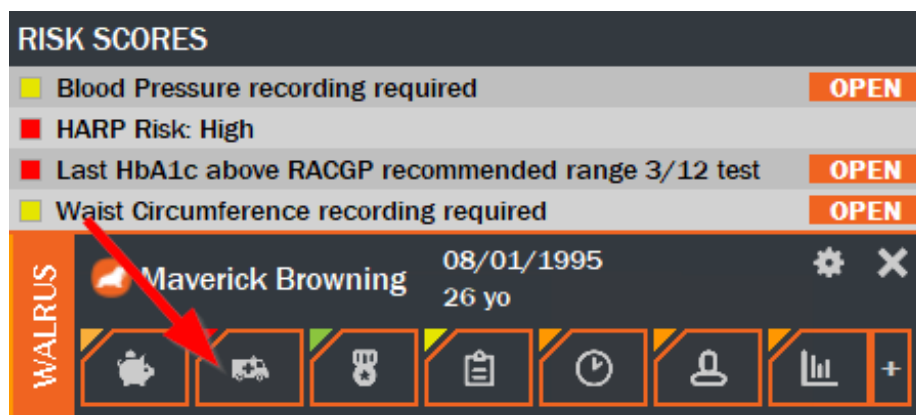
The Walrus MBS eligibility data provides information on patient eligibility for:

Low-level notifications:

- Possibly eligible for new GPCCMP
- Possibly eligible for new GPCCMP Review
- Eligible for Indigenous Health Assessment HMR/RMMR
- 75+ Health Assessment
- 45-49 Health Assessment

Please note that this is based on claiming information in your practice software (where available to POLAR) and does not include items billed at other practices. A PRODA check is therefore still required to confirm eligibility.

2) Risk Scores



The risk scores tab shows the calculated risk for a patient under the Western HARP model, Australian Absolute CVD Risk calculation and APRI cirrhosis risk.

Documentation on these scores can be found on the links below

- [HARP Risk Calculation Report - Data Definitions](#)
- [CVD risk calculation process](#)
- [APRI score calculation](#)

The possible values are:

HARP risk:

- Low
- Medium
- High
- Urgent

CVD risk:

- Low
- Medium
- High
- At risk

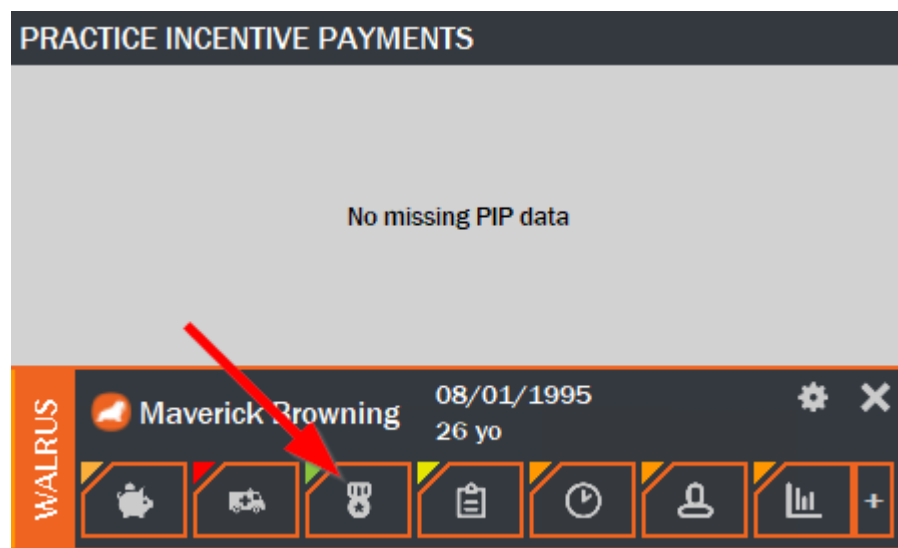
APRI cirrhosis risk:

- Little to no indication of cirrhosis
- Moderate indicator of cirrhosis
- Strong indicator of cirrhosis

Other risk items include:

- BMI recording required
- Waist Circumference recording required
- Blood Pressure recording required
- Lipids test required
- Fasting Glucose test required
- HbA1c testing is due for diabetes monitoring care
- Last HbA1c above RACGP recommended range 3/12 test
- COVID Vaccine Status: Unvaccinated
- COVID Vaccine Status: Partially vaccinated
- COVID Vaccine Status: Fully vaccinated, booster due
- COVID Vaccine Status: Fully vaccinated, booster not due

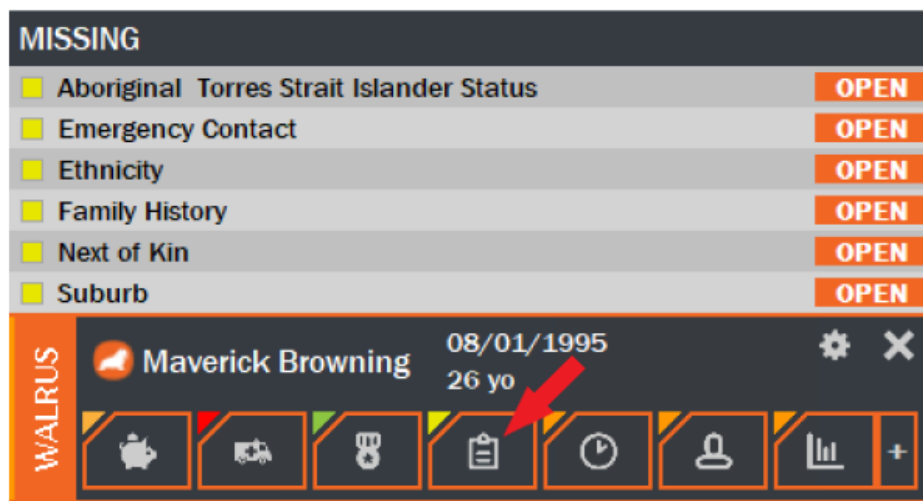
3) PIP QI



Provides prompts for missing data/tests for patients who fall under PIP QI measures, these include

- QIM 1 - HbA1c test required (where a patient has type 1/2 diabetes or an unknown type of diabetes)
- QIM 2 - Smoking status not recorded
- QIM 3 - BMI not recorded in past 12 months
- QIM 4 - Flu vaccination required (65+ patients)
- QIM 5 - Flu vaccination required (Patients with diabetes)
- QIM 6 - Flu vaccination required (Patients with COPD)
- QIM 7 - AUDIT C required
- QIM 8 - CVD risk components required
- QIM 9 - Cervical screening required
- QIM 10 - Blood pressure not recorded in past 6 months

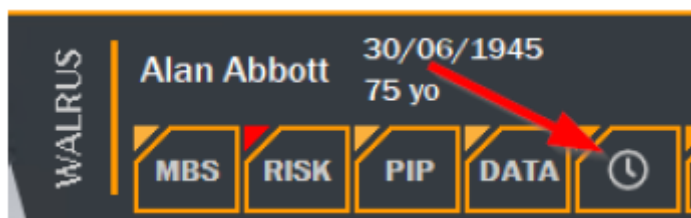
4) Data Quality



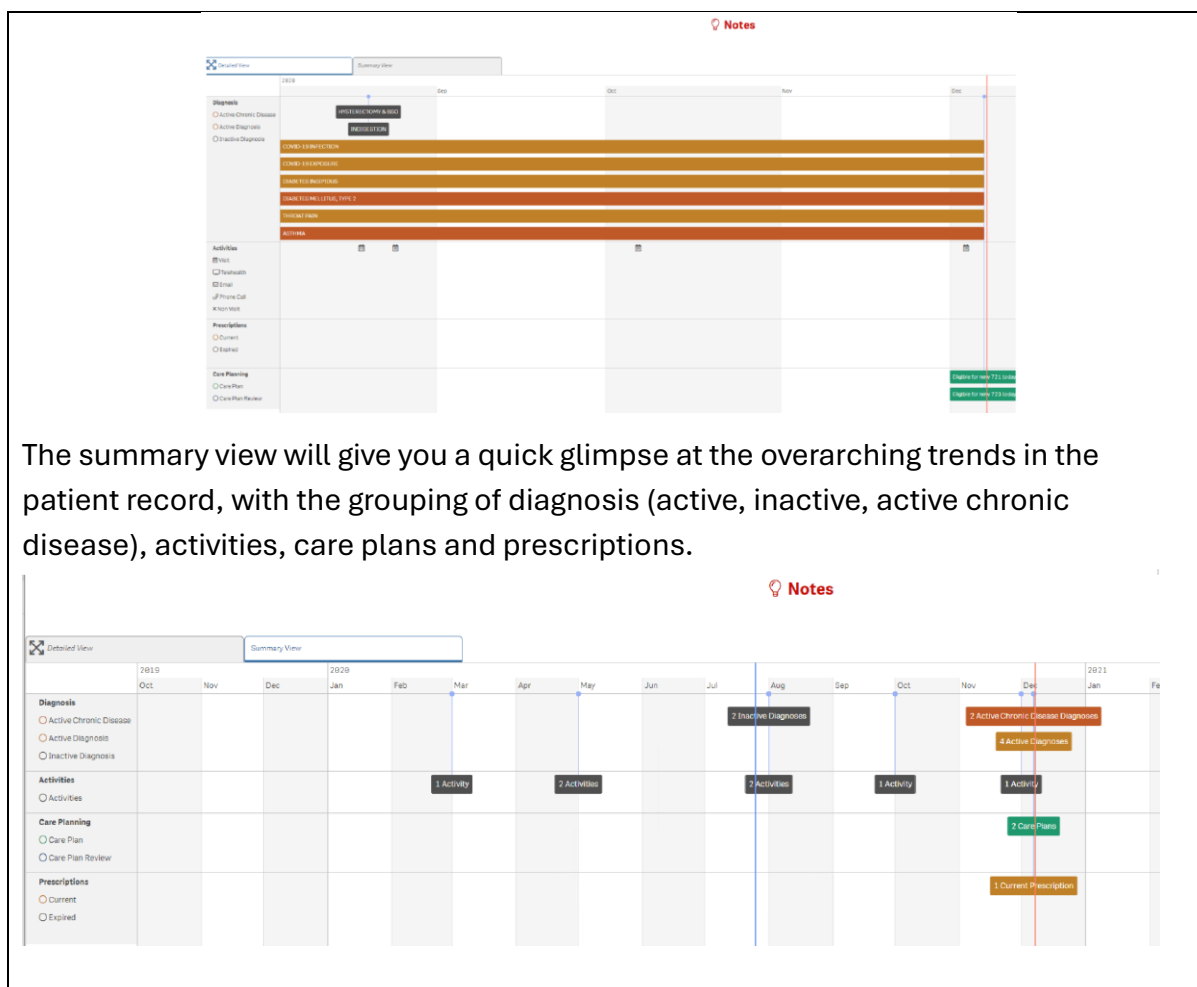
The data quality tab will give you information around missing information for both the clinical part of a patient's record and the demographics/admin component.

- Demographic components are assessed as low-urgency notifications.

5) Patient Timeline

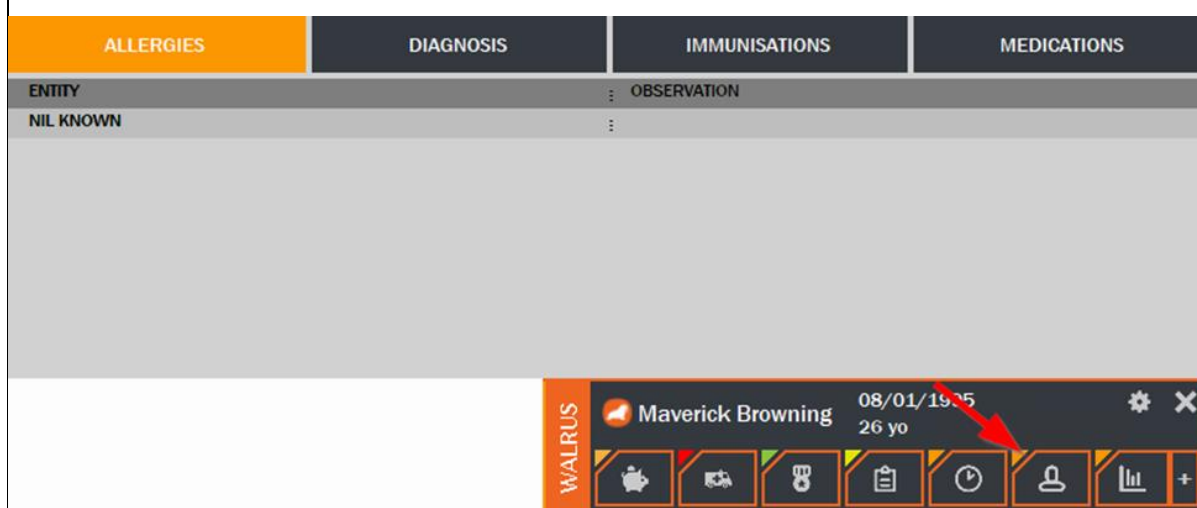


The patient timeline is available in two separate streams, a detailed view that will give you insight into the individual diagnosis, activities, prescriptions and care planning information. See below for example:



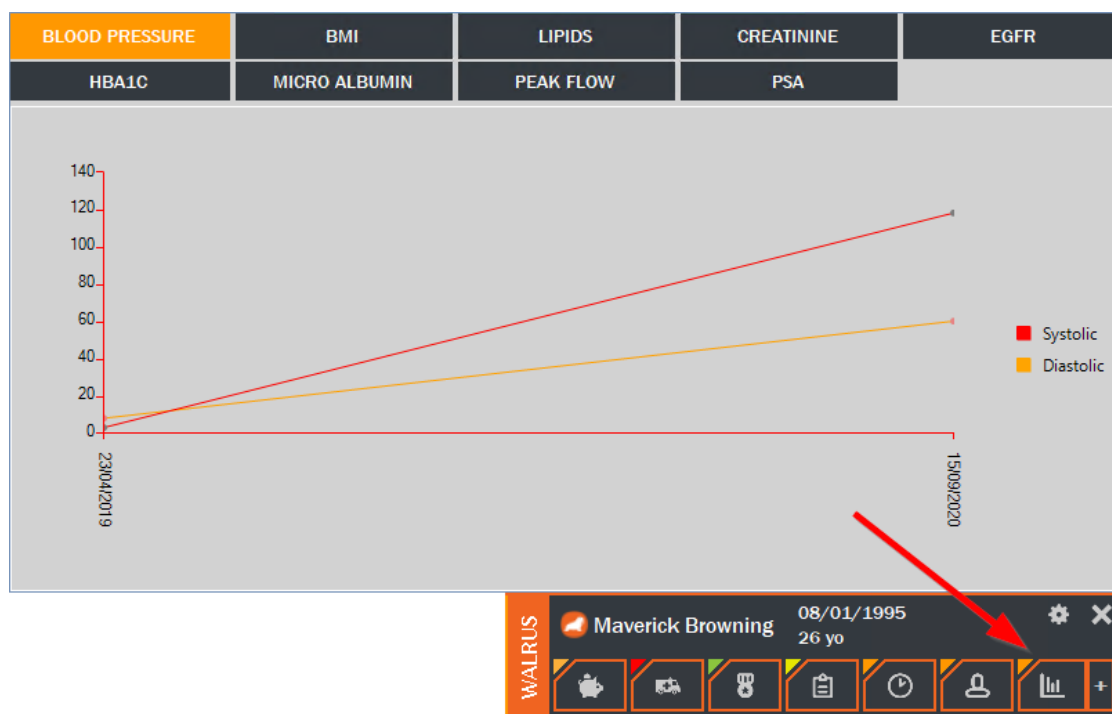
The summary view will give you a quick glimpse at the overarching trends in the patient record, with the grouping of diagnosis (active, inactive, active chronic disease), activities, care plans and prescriptions.

6) Clinical summary



Gives the overview of patient clinical records for allergies, diagnosis, immunisations and medications.

7) Clinical Graphs



Clinical graphs are available to track results over time for:

- Blood pressure (systolic and diastolic)
- BMI
- Cholesterol
- Creatinine
- eGFR
- HbA1c
- Microalbumin
- Peak flow
- PSA (males only)

Clinical graph data is drawn from measurements/observations and pathology data.

Where to get help?

Get in touch with your Primary Care Facilitator
primarycare@nwmpnhn.org.au or (03) 9347 1188

