ENHANCING DEMENTIA CARE IN PRIMARY CARE

Expressions of interest to participate in
Dementia Care Quality Improvement Program – Wave 1

Sydney North Primary Health Network (SNPHN) in conjunction with the Northern Sydney Dementia Collaborative are seeking expressions of interest from General Practices who would like to participate in a program to support timely diagnosis of dementia, improved medication management and care planning, service navigation and support for family/carers.

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The program will provide support to participating practices to analyse current dementia care management and develop individualised improvement plans to support implementation of evidence-based best practice care.

In Australia, dementia is the second leading cause of death, in the absence of a cure there is increasing focus on risk reduction, timely diagnosis and early intervention.

The Department of Health National Framework for Action on Dementia 2015-2019 states, “A person’s main healthcare provider, their General Practitioner has an important role in recognising, assessing, diagnosing and providing support”.

Diagnosing dementia can be difficult owing to the insidious onset of the disease. In response to this and due to the ageing population in our region, we need to focus on solutions that meet the needs of people living with dementia through a multipronged approach. We aim to build capacity within general practice to better understand the needs of people and their carers, living with dementia to navigate our complex health system.

SNPHN in collaboration with The Improvement Foundation formed an expert reference panel in 2016 to develop the quality indicators for best practice dementia care in general practice.

• Access to meaningful practice data
• Provision of monthly Practice Benchmarking report
• Improved patient care via streamlining of practice processes
• Peer mentoring for practice staff, including general practitioners and practice nurses
• Networking opportunities with other practices interested in quality improvement
• Access to experienced primary health system ‘navigators’
• Improved communication between multiple care providers
• Participate in quality improvement activities (such as PDSA cycles), and contribute to accreditation requirements (general practice “standards”)
• CATPlus Suite of Tools, Healthlink Secure Messaging will be provided free of charge if not already installed, access to training.
• Priority access to dementia and other related training. CPD points available for education/orientation sessions
• Participation in this QI program would benefit those GPs who have included Dementia within their RACGP PLAN
• Participating practices will be eligible to receive quality improvement incentives (conditions apply)
• Better awareness of local care pathways including access to services.

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

BENEFITS FOR THE PRACTICE
ELIGIBILITY

- Principal GP/GP’s participation and team approach will be required
- CATPlus Suite of tools installed (or willing to have these installed), to enable data analysis.
- Digital Health enabled (two way secure messaging, uploading shared health summaries, able to register patient for myHealth Record) or willingness to register
- Commitment to be engaged in training and clinical practice improvement opportunities, and to support practice staff with these activities

WHAT IS REQUIRED?

- A passion for improving care for patients with Dementia.
- Monthly catch-up meetings, face to face or tele/video conference with Primary Care Advancement Coordinator.
- Commitment to participate in scheduled training as listed below:
  - Orientation workshop – December 2018
  - Dementia focused education – March 2018
  - Workshops for collaboration with other participating General Practices April 2018 and July 2018 (dates to be confirmed)

If your practice is interested in participating please complete page 3 and return to sfox@snhn.org.au by 17/11/17.

For further information
Please contact the Primary Care Advancement Team:

Primary Care Advancement Coordinator/
Aged Care Programs
Sarah Fox: sfox@snhn.org.au

Primary Care Advancement Manager
Deb Pallavicini: dpallavicini@snhn.org.au
Expression of Interest – Dementia Care Quality Improvement Program

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Please email completed form to sfox@snhn.org.au