

## GP Newsletter

July 2018

The focus in 2018 has been on the new 'integrated' semester model for clinical rotations kicking off in January 2019. From then onwards the GP rotation will be embedded in a teaching semester together with the Rural/Medicine in Society and Mental Health rotations. This means that students will rotate through GP three times in semester 1 and 3 times in semester 2, with each rotation consisting of 6 weeks. Shortly, we will ask for your availability to place students in semester 1 2019.

In tandem with this new 'block model' there will be changes to assessment. The end of rotation OSCE will move into a year 3 OSCE. In the GP rotation more emphasis will be placed on assessment in the workplace. Our upcoming GP teachers evening will take you through the new model.

Last month we have welcomed a new Faculty Executive Dean, Professor Geoff McColl. He joins us from the University of Melbourne where he was the highly regarded Head of the Medical School. A rheumatologist by trade, he comes with a wealth of experience in medical education and a genuine appreciation of general practice. We are looking forward to working with him.

Finally, we heard you are interested in our team's research. We are passionate about teaching but equally driven by improving the quality of teaching as well as patient outcomes through research. To give you a taste of what we do in our non-teaching time, we're introducing a "PCCU Research Page". We hope you enjoy reading about our research and look forward to your feedback and, perhaps, also participation?! Thank you.

Professor Mieke van Driel, Head Primary Care Clinical Unit (PCCU) and Discipline of General Practice

### Congratulations to Dr Ben Mitchell

2018 RACGP Qld Faculty Research Medal winner

### Featured profile: Dr Alison Green



Alison is a General Practice Registrar, and one of the Primary Care Clinical Unit's Academic Registrars in 2018. She is a UQ graduate with a diverse work background, including a previous career at

the Commonwealth Attorney-General's Department.

Alison enjoys teaching, and has been tutor within the Faculty of Medicine since 2012. This year she has welcomed the opportunity to work with 3<sup>rd</sup> year General Practice rotation students, as part of her role in PCCU.

She is undertaking a qualitative research project, under the supervision of Dr Ben Mitchell and Professor Leonie Callaway, on the experience of GPs in diagnosis and initial management of Gestational Diabetes Mellitus.

Alison works at Stafford Heights Medical Practice, and has also completed a registrar rotation at an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Health Service.

When not at PCCU or working in the clinic, she can be found chasing her 4 year old twins around the playgrounds and libraries of Brisbane!

### Congratulations to Medeco Inala

2018 RACGP Queensland Practice of the Year.

#### 2018 Remaining GP Rotation dates

16<sup>th</sup> July – 7<sup>th</sup> September

17<sup>th</sup> September – 9<sup>th</sup> November

#### 2018 Remaining Urban LInCC dates

23<sup>rd</sup> July – 26<sup>th</sup> October

**Stop Press:** The UQ GP Teachers Evening will be held on **Wednesday 24th October**, details to follow.

## Teaching news

### Student evaluations from rotations 1 & 2 2018

#### What I liked:

- The wealth of knowledge my GP has as a doctor who has practised for 35 years.
- Had so many opportunities to do anything and everything. Lots of hands on!
- GP was extremely involved in teaching; loved to teach; threw me in without judgement.
- My GP was so enthusiastic to teach, and a real inspiration to work with; always made time to answer questions and actively involved me in consultations; made me feel valued as both a student and a colleague.
- Opportunity to attend Nursing Home visits.

### GP teaching tips

- Do history and diagnosis with the student who then leaves to consider his/her own management strategy.
- Try to get a commitment from them.
- Tell the student it is okay to be wrong – have a go.
- Ask the student “what is one thing you can take home today?”

### Work Based Assessment (WBA)

#### Please help us by piloting a new medical student assessment in your practice

The UQ Faculty of Medicine is introducing work based assessment across the MD program from 2019. In work based assessment the student is observed performing clinical tasks in a clinical environment.

PCCU is currently conducting a pilot of this assessment in general practice, to ensure that it is acceptable, feasible and useful for everyone involved. We are also interested in GP teacher feedback to students, and what GP teachers and students see as important aspects of student performances and feedback.

We want to ensure that we implement work-based assessment in a way that works for teaching GPs AND benefits our students. We need feedback from both our GP teachers and our students to make sure this happens.

**To be part of this exciting pilot, please look out for more communication from PCCU about the pilot!**

**To express interest in participating please phone Jocelyn Selwood (3346 5136) or email [b.mitchell@ug.edu.au](mailto:b.mitchell@ug.edu.au)**

#### What is Work Based Assessment?

Work based assessment (WBA) involves observing how the student performs clinical tasks in a clinical environment and providing feedback on their performance.

It aims to encourage students to achieve competencies and demonstrate that they have achieved them. It is most beneficial for the student when they are provided with specific feedback about their performance of the task including the areas which they are managing well and those in need of improvement. They can then be encouraged to develop a plan to further their learning and skills development.

WBA is most effective when it is done on multiple occasions and by several different assessors hence the reason for UQ implementing it across year 3

#### Why use Work Based Assessment?

As well as giving students the opportunity to learn through feedback, WBA provides evidence of the progress of the student in developing clinical skills competencies across the year and this information is different from the information obtained from traditional exams.

It also identifies students in need of additional support and allows for earlier intervention.

### Become a GP Academic Title Holder

The Faculty of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences proudly acknowledges the dedicated work of its many externally-funded health professionals, including our general practitioner teachers. To recognise the work of these health professionals the Faculty of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences awards individuals with academic titles.

#### Benefits of a University of Queensland Academic Title include:

- UQ library access including online journals
- EndNote citation manager
- Research Support Network
- Eligible to join UQ Sport
- UQ Email Account, Internet And Staff Web Portal Access

To apply for an Academic Title please go to <http://www.uq.edu.au/health/academic>

## Research news

### PCCU Clinical Research Spotlight

#### A randomized controlled trial of SMS reminders for routine asthma care in Australian general practice.

Targeted SMS reminders increase the rates of asthma action plans.

In 2015, a few GPs at our clinic were interested in targeted SMS reminders specifically contacting patients for aspects of care that fall outside of follow up or recalls.

One area was asthma action plans. Asthma self-management, including asthma action plans, reduce hospital visits and improve lung function, and remain a recommended step in asthma management. Yet only 21% of people with asthma have written action plans.

We performed a randomized controlled trial of

targeted SMS reminders compared to no SMS reminders (usual care) in eligible patients from May to August 2016 in a metropolitan general practice in South-East Queensland.

138 adults consented to participate. After three months, 44% (35/79) of patients in the intervention group had asthma action plans compared with 8% (5/59) in the usual care group ( $p < 0.0001$ ). Only 3 patients needed to receive an SMS for one extra to come in for an asthma plan.

Since then we have seen that targeted SMS reminders can influence other aspects of health care such as influenza vaccinations in patients with COPD.

Ben Mitchell

Mitchell B, Carter J & Mitchell AE A randomized controlled trial of SMS reminders for routine asthma care in Australian general practice. Presented at the RACGP 60<sup>th</sup> Clinical Update Weekend, May 2018.

### GPs/GP registrars needed

#### Exploring “Whole Person” Care

Dr Hayley Thomas, an academic registrar with the PCCU, is seeking GPs or GP registrars who are interested in **whole person care in General Practice** for her research.

Participating in the study involves a 20-30 minute face-to-face or telephone/on-line interview at a time convenient to you.

If you would like more information or are interested in participating, please email Dr Hayley Thomas at [h.thomas@uq.edu.au](mailto:h.thomas@uq.edu.au)

### Recent PCCU Publications

- **Withdrawal versus continuation of long-term antipsychotic drug use for behavioural and psychological symptoms in older people with dementia (Review).** Van Leeuwen E, et al. Cochrane Database Systematic Reviews 2018, Issue 3. Art. No.: CD007726. DOI: 10.1002/14651858.CD007726.pub3.
- **Impact of Maternal Infant Weight Perception on Infant Feeding and Dietary Intake.** Harrison, M, et al. Matern Child Health J (2018). DOI:10.1007/s10995-018-2498-x
- **A systematic literature review on the association between loneliness and coping strategies.** Psychology, Health & Medicine (2018). Deckx L, et al DOI:10.1080/13548506.2018.1446096
- **An underutilised resource for Antimicrobial Stewardship: a ‘snapshot’ of the community pharmacists’ role in delayed or ‘wait and see’ antibiotic prescribing.** Avent M, et al. (2018). Int J Pharm Pract. DOI:10.1111/ijpp.12431

If you would like to receive a copy of any of these articles, please contact us at [dgpadmin@uq.edu.au](mailto:dgpadmin@uq.edu.au)



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**THE UNIVERSITY  
OF QUEENSLAND**  
AUSTRALIA

**PA-Southside**  
Clinical Unit

**How to Be a Better Teacher**  
**MASTERING FEEDBACK**  
**Understanding the Role of Feedback, Support and**  
**Mentorship in the Teaching Environment**

The PA-Southside Clinical Unit invites you to attend a short course designed to improve your teaching of medical students.

**Course Aims:**

- This course is designed to offer knowledge and expertise which will enable participants to become better teachers.
- It is suitable for all doctors who teach our undergraduate medical students – interns, trainees and consultants – across all disciplines.
- The course will run over one day and will cover a number of topics.

**Program:**

This year the program includes sessions on:

- the principles and techniques of providing constructive feedback;
- ways to boost learners' performance;
- how to help and who to contact when UQ support is required;
- an introduction to mentoring.

**Date:** Saturday 22 September 2018

**Time:** 8:15am-3:00pm

**Venue:** Auditorium, Translational Research Institute

Please RSVP by **Friday 14 September:**  
[med.pascu@uq.edu.au](mailto:med.pascu@uq.edu.au)

