



Training Update



Update from Regional Head of Education – New England/Northwest

Here's hoping at the start of a new term that you're brimming with enthusiasm and energy for supervising and teaching your registrars.

First, thanks to all who attended the Supervisor workshop in Armidale in June. It was a great turn up and a very buzzy, engaged crowd. Your feedback was very positive and encouraging.

Many of you suggested that future supervisor meetings be held in other locations in the region. The good news is that for later in 2017 we are planning half day workshops in Tamworth as well as in Inverell. The focus will be on developing clinical reasoning skills in your registrar. The dates and invitations should already have been sent to you. I hope you can make it to one of them.

Many of you will be starting a new registrar in your practice. It's worth reinforcing a few important supervision and teaching aspects that will help your registrars learning.

Number one is a comprehensive orientation to the people and processes in your practice. Time spent on this up front can save a lot of work and misunderstanding during the term.

Not just for the registrar's sake, but for the safety of your patients and yourself, it is very important that you sit in and watch your registrar consult early in the term. It is the most valuable way of knowing how your registrar is performing and what they need to do to improve. "I don't have time" I hear you say? Try scheduling sitting-in as one of your one-hour teaching sessions. In 60 minutes, you can watch one or two consults, discuss what you observed and then talk about what the registrar needs and wants to learn in the term.

Your feedback on the registrar is crucial to our ongoing in-training assessment. More importantly, though, it's how the registrar improves. The most useful part of the Formative Assessment is the section asking for overall comments. Please take some time and thought to give constructive suggestions for where and how the registrar might do things better.

If you haven't already had a look at them, there are some very helpful resources available in Support GPT. For supervisors with Term 1 or 2 registrars you can access these via the Quick Links and Subscriptions tab in GPRime2. Also, look in the Supervisor Toolkit, via the Forms, Documents and Links tab, for the General Practice Supervisor Australia (GPSA) modules and resources.

Finally, a reminder that Dr Simon Morgan is the medical educator with supervisor portfolio area. He can help with mentoring new supervisors, assist with teaching and supervision upskilling and direction to resources. Please contact Simon or me if you feel you would benefit from help or advice.

Good luck with the term and look forward to seeing you soon.

Dr Tony Saltis | Regional Head of Education – Hunter New England Central Coast

Have your say! Supervisor and practice manager surveys now open

We are inviting all supervisors and practice managers to participate in our annual feedback survey.

The survey will take approximately 10-15 minutes to complete and is anonymous. Please check your email for the survey link.

Please don't hesitate to contact Marketing and Communications Manager, Kate Froggatt on kate_froggatt@gpsynergy.com.au or 1300 477 963 if you have any queries.



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Do you have a new registrar starting in your practice this term?

There are several important activities for supervisors and practices at the start of a GP term.

✔ Day 1: Practice orientation

It is critical that all registrars are properly orientated to their new practice. You may find our practice orientation and equipment checklists a useful addition to your current orientation resources.

✔ Week 1: Review the registrar's Pre-Term Assessment Report

Prior to each term starting supervisors have access to their new registrar's Pre-Term Assessment Report (PTAR). The PTAR is a summary of a registrar's training.

It includes:

- the registrar's contact details
- a history of their placements
- the results of their Pre-GP Term Assessment (PGA)
- any competency assessments completed during previous GP community-based terms, such as Clinical Teaching Visits (CTVs) and competency assessments completed by the registrar's other supervisors.

The PTAR will appear as a pop-up in the weeks prior to term starting. It can also be accessed on an ongoing basis via the 'Trainee Portfolio' and clicking on the 'Summary tab'. Further information about how to interpret the PTAR can be found in the Supervisor Toolkit in GPRime2.



✔ Week 1-2: Direct observation

We strongly recommend supervisors spend some time observing their new registrar's consultations in the first few weeks of term to assess their competence and any learning need areas.

✔ From Week 2-6: Develop your registrar's supervision plan (including high risk presentations) and learning plan.

Supervisors are required to support registrars in developing a learning plan in the first 4-6 weeks of the term. As part of this process, supervisors are strongly encouraged to complete a supervision plan and consider how to assess the registrar's current level of competence, especially with regard to high risk or red flag areas.

The aim of the plan is to identify areas requiring closer supervision to optimise training and minimise the risk of adverse outcomes for patients and registrars.

Assisting the registrar develop their learning plan will include identifying in-practice learning and teaching topics and activities. Supervisors may find it useful to familiarise themselves with the new SupportGPT online platform prior to discussing their registrar's learning plan.

A supervision plan template can be found in the toolkit in GPRime2.

Reminder: Supervisor requirements cheat sheet

Don't forget there is a two page '[Supervision requirements at a glance](#)' cheat sheet. This provides a brief overview of the supervision requirements over a six month (26 week) training term, with links to many useful resources.

To access:

1. Login to GPRime2
2. Go to 'Forms, Documents and Links'
3. Search 'Supervision requirements'

Requirement	GPT1/PTAR1	GPT2/PTAR2	GPT3/PTAR3	Essential Skills	Mandatory Elements	Examination Elements	Quality Assurance/Standards in the Supervision Plan (GPRime2)
Pre-term assessment	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	Pre-term assessment report (PTAR) - Registrar's contact details, history of placements, results of Pre-GP Term Assessment (PGA), and competency assessments completed during previous GP community-based terms.
Direct observation	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	Direct observation of consultations - Supervisor to observe registrar's consultations in the first few weeks of term to assess competence and learning need areas.
Supervision plan	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	Supervision plan - Identify areas requiring closer supervision to optimise training and minimise the risk of adverse outcomes for patients and registrars.
Clinical teaching visits	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	Clinical teaching visits (CTVs) - Competency assessments completed during previous GP community-based terms.

Have you tried SupportGPT – the online in-practice teaching tool for supervisors and registrars?

SupportGPT is an online in-practice teaching resource for supervisors, and registrars in their first or second GP term. It is not mandatory for you to use this platform or alter your in-practice teaching unless you want to. However we encourage you to have a look around the site to explore the modules and features available and how they might assist you.

What's included in SupportGPT?

SupportGPT has many features:

1. **Registrar modules:** There are 16 modules that can be completed by registrars prior to an in-practice teaching session, and activities that can be completed during in-practice face-to-face teaching time with their supervisor.
2. **Supervisor modules:** There are currently four modules for supervisor's professional development and education. Combined, these modules form an Active Learning Module (ALM) that will be accredited with the RACGP and ACRRM for 40 Category 1 QI&CPD points and the PDP equivalent.
3. **Weekly in-practice teaching planner:** This planner can be used in a flexible manner and may be used by a supervisor to guide in-practice weekly teaching sessions.
4. **ResourceGPT:** An index of over 1,300 clinical resources which are searchable and can be used in any order as problems present.

Who can access SupportGPT?

SupportGPT is only accessible by supervisors who have a registrar in their first or second GP term.

How can you access SupportGPT?

1. Login to GPRime2
2. Go to the 'Quick Links' tab in the top toolbar
3. Select 'SupportGPT'

How can you find out more about using SupportGPT?

1. View the [SupportGPT flyer](#)
2. View the [5-minute instructional video](#)

Both resources are also available in GPRime2 under 'Forms, Documents and Links'. Just search 'SupportGPT'.

Examples of how to use SupportGPT

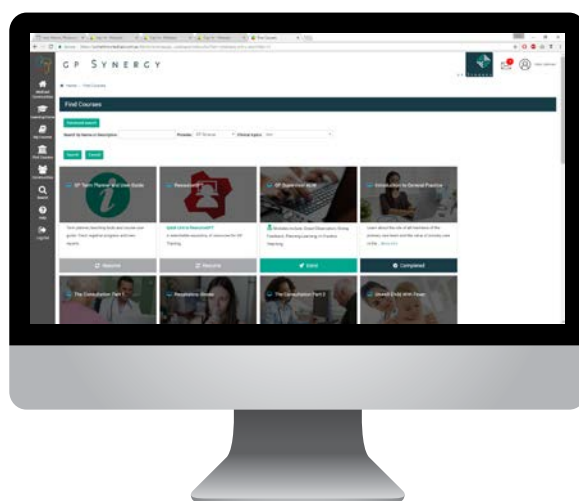
Supervisor Grant

Grant is an experienced supervisor in a large regional practice. His registrar, Jane, is starting her first term in GP practice. She has just been to her "Foundations" day release program and has spent some time with the practice manager learning about the practice and its systems. Grant asks Jane what she would like to learn during her term. Jane, being new, responds by saying "everything"! They agree that Jane should develop a learning plan, and she uses the Learning Needs Analysis to guide thinking about this. Grant and Jane decide that they will follow the suggested weekly activities in the GP Term Planner, and agree that they can review this and change the order at any time if Jane identifies a specific need.



Supervisor Karen

Karen is supervising Hung this term. Hung is in his second term in general practice training, prior to which he did many years working in ED. They discuss Hung's learning needs and identify that he is confident in many areas. They decide that Hung will review the modules on SupportGPT and only focus on those that meet his specific learning needs. They will also use their in-practice teaching time to focus on his clinical reasoning skills through random case analysis and case presentation.



Medicare provider number reminder



If you are training a GP registrar in a GP term in 2017.2 (Aug- Feb), please ensure they check the letter from Medicare advising them of their provider number approval.

Registrars should confirm that they been issued with a provider number with full billing rights before they commence billing patients. Registrars with refer and request rights will only be able to refer patients and request investigations for them, until a provider number with full billing rights is received.

Key dates



11 Sept - 3 Oct: Practices to update their training placement capacity for the first term of 2018 (2018.1).

25 Sept*: Week 8 competency assessment due for registrars in first or second GP terms

18 Oct: Practices notified of training placement caps.

23 Oct: Registrars can start applying to practices in their allocated grouping

*These dates are indicative only and may vary if a registrar is part-time or commenced a GP term after the first week of term.

Research: Participation request

Global Assessment Tools in (medical) Education (GATE)

Participants: Medical educators and GP supervisors

Methodology: Participation involves completion of up to six questionnaires over a six-month period, each questionnaire taking approximately 15-30 minutes to complete. All data will be de-identified.

Aims: The objective of this project is to define the factors which influence Global Assessments of general practice registrars by experienced General Practitioners (GPs) and Medical Educators (MEs). It is hoped that defining these factors and promoting this knowledge to those involved in undertaking Global Assessments throughout GP training will enhance the validity and reliability of this increasingly important selection and assessment tool.

Chief Investigator: This research project is being conducted through General Practice Training Queensland. The project is supported by the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners with funding from the Australian Government under the Australian General Practice Training Program.

The GATE Project Advisory Group: Dr Graham Emblen – Project leader (gemblen@gptq.qld.edu.au), Dr Rebecca Stewart – Project manager (rebecca@mededexperts.com.au), Joanne Fisher - Senior Research Officer: (jfisher@gptq.qld.edu.au), A/Prof Marie-Louise Dick, Dr Scott Preston, Dr Gerard Ingham, Dr Jane Smith.

To participate: If you are interested in participating, please review the Participant Information and Consent Form, available via the following link ([GATE Consent form](#)) which is followed by the initial questionnaire.

RACGP Foundation Grant success

Congratulations to Prof Parker Magin and Dr Anthea Dallas, both recipients of RACGP Foundation Grants!

Dr Dallas will examine GP registrars' and their supervisors' attitudes to, and experience of, the use of delayed antibiotic prescribing for acute respiratory tract infections through a qualitative study.

Prof Magin's grant is for the AusTAPER (Team Approach to Polypharmacy Evaluation and Reduction) pilot study for older general practice patients.

GP Synergy medical student scholarship recipient gets published

Congratulations to Belinda Watson on being lead author on a paper published in [Australian Family Physician](#)!

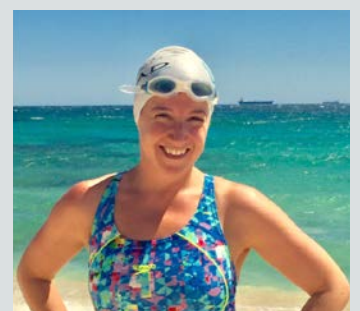
The paper is based on the study she undertook as a UNSW recipient of a GP Synergy Medical Student Scholarship in 2016. Scholarship recipients are supported by GP Synergy to participate in research projects and undertake a community GP placement. Belinda's study investigated older patients and general practice follow-up after an emergency department admission.

There are currently 18 students from universities across NSW and ACT participating in the program. For more information visit [our website](#).

GP registrar swimming the English Channel

Dr Rachele Silver will be swimming solo from Dover, UK to Calais, France in August. She is using her swim across the English Channel to raise funds for an organisation close to her heart – Perinatal Anxiety and Depression Australia (PANDA). PANDA offers the only specialist national perinatal mental health telephone counselling service, as well as reducing stigma around perinatal anxiety and depression, and providing education services to health professionals and the wider community.

You can read more about her amazing feat here: <https://www.mycause.com.au/page/150414/rachele-swims-the-english-channel-for-perinatal-mental-health>



Supervisor professional development activities

There is an exciting range of supervisor professional development activities lined up for the second half of the year. A list of all events can be found on the calendar on our [website](#) with invitations sent by email closer to each activity.

All nodes - events:

- General Practice Education and Training Conference | 15-17 Aug | Sydney – registrations now closed
- Combined Supervisor Professional Development Day | 18 Aug | Sydney – registrations now closed
- Clinical Teacher Training Workshop | 3 Nov | Sydney – new supervisors only | RSVP – [Nicole Tooma](#)
- Clinical Teacher Training Workshop | Sat 18 Nov | Canberra – new supervisors only | RSVP – [Nicole Tooma](#)

Webinars:

- SupportGPT tricks of the trade – review of the module and how it works for supervisors | 14 Sept | RSVP – [Claire Doyle](#)
- The science of our art – using reason and probability | 12 Oct | RSVP – [Claire Doyle](#)
- How to support your registrar to prepare for the RACGP exams | 9 Nov | RSVP – [Claire Doyle](#)

Don't forget! All webinar recordings can be accessed via GPRime2. Go to 'Forms, Documents and Links' and search 'webinar'.

Regional activities:

Central, Eastern and South Western Sydney

- Facilitating clinical reasoning | 10 Oct | Chippendale | RSVP – [Nicole Tooma](#)
- Facilitating clinical reasoning | 26 Oct | Liverpool | RSVP – [Nicole Tooma](#)

Hunter, Manning and Central Coast

- Facilitating clinical reasoning | 6 Sept | Newcastle (Note new time: 9.00am-1.00pm) | RSVP – [Jacky Porter](#)
- Facilitating clinical reasoning | 13 Sep | Central Coast | RSVP – [Jacky Porter](#)
- Facilitating clinical reasoning | 25 Oct | Taree | RSVP – [Jacky Porter](#)
- Facilitating clinical reasoning | 1 Nov | Singleton/Muswellbrook | RSVP – [Jacky Porter](#)

Murrumbidgee and ACT

- Facilitating clinical reasoning | 20 Sept | Canberra | RSVP – [Liline Hewett](#)
- Facilitating clinical reasoning | 4 Nov | Wagga Wagga | RSVP – [Claire Doyle](#)

Nepean, Western and Northern Sydney

- Facilitating clinical reasoning | 6 Sept | Hazelbrook | RSVP – [Nicole Tooma](#)
- Facilitating clinical reasoning | 11 Oct | North Sydney | RSVP – [Nicole Tooma](#)
- Facilitating clinical reasoning | 14 Nov | Parramatta | RSVP – [Nicole Tooma](#)

New England/Northwest

- Facilitating clinical reasoning & Topic 2 TBA | 28 Oct | Tamworth | RSVP – [Jacky Porter](#)
- Facilitating clinical reasoning & Topic 2 TBA | 2 Dec | Inverell | RSVP – [Jacky Porter](#)

North Coast

- Day 1: Planning for Learning and facilitating clinical reasoning | Day 2: Clinical Teacher Visitor (CTV) training | 16-17 Sept | Coffs Harbour | RSVP – [Claire Doyle](#)

South Eastern NSW

- Facilitating clinical reasoning | 1 Nov | Wollongong | RSVP – [Robyn Fanning](#)
- Facilitating clinical reasoning | 4 Nov | Bega | RSVP – [Robyn Fanning](#)

Western NSW

- Facilitating clinical reasoning & Topic 2 TBA | 23 Sept | Bathurst | RSVP – [Angie Honeyman](#)

Looking for a laugh? GP the Musical is coming to Sydney in September

Created by GPs, Drs Gerard Ingham and Genevieve Yates, and directed by A/Prof Katrina Anderson, GP the Musical made its debut at the General Practice Education and Training Conference in 2012, before playing to sold-out shows at the Melbourne International Comedy Festival in 2013..

The highly popular musical will be hitting the stage again, this time in Sydney at the NIDA studios in September.

Ten GPs from around Australia are involved in the production which includes NSW GP supervisors Drs Linda Mann and Hester Wilson, as well as Regional Head of Education – South Eastern NSW, Dr Allison Miller, and GP Synergy Director of Registrar Education, Dr Anna Sallos.

“Being a part of this has been a great experience!” says Dr Sallos.

“Anyone who has sat in a doctor’s waiting room can relate to the play. If you want a good laugh and a night out with the family, come along!”

GP the Musical is showing at NIDA in Sydney from 14-17 September 2017. Bookings can be made from [Ticketek](#).

Need some help?

Practice Liaison and Support Officers (PLSO)

- **Central, Eastern and South Western Sydney:**
 - Lexi Kyle - 02 8321 4084
lexi_kyle@gpsynergy.com.au
- **Hunter, Manning and Central Coast:**
 - Lucinda Coble - 02 8321 4237
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- **Nepean, Western and Northern Sydney:**
 - Emie Roy - 02 8321 4068
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- **New England/Northwest:**
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- **North Coast:**
 - Rhonda O'Dell - 02 8321 4126
rhonda_odell@gpsynergy.com.au
- **Western NSW:**
 - Kim VanBruchem - 02 8321 4211
kim_vanbruchem@gpsynergy.com.au
- **Murrumbidgee and ACT:**
 - Jodie Hay - 02 8321 4145
jodie_hay@gpsynergy.com.au
- **South Eastern NSW:**
 - Jodie Hay - 02 8321 4145
jodie_hay@gpsynergy.com.au

Supervisor Liaison Officers (SLO)

- **Western NSW:**
Dr Ken Hazelton - ken_hazelton@gpsynergy.com.au
- **South Eastern NSW:**
Dr James Boyd - james_boyd@gpsynergy.com.au
- **North Coast:**
Dr John Vaughan - john_vaughan@gpsynergy.com.au
- **Nepean, Western and Northern Sydney:**
Dr Cecile Dinh - cecile_dinh@gpsynergy.com.au
- **Murrumbidgee:**
Dr Ken Mackey - ken_mackey@gpsynergy.com.au

Whilst we continue to recruit to regions, please contact one of the SLO team listed above who will be able to assist in the interim.

Positions vacant:

Are you interested in becoming an SLO? Find out more by visiting our website under employment opportunities or contact Nicky Doneva on nicky_doneva@gpsynergy.com.au

Expressions of interest are currently being sought for the following SLO positions:

- Hunter New England Central Coast
- Central, Eastern and South Western Sydney
- ACT

Where can you find out what GP Synergy workshops your registrar has attended and what was covered?

To access:

1. Login to GPrime2
2. Open the 'trainee portfolio' module (left hand toolbar)
3. Select your registrar's name
4. Click on 'Events' to see a list of attended and upcoming events, and topics.
5. Click on the name of the event, and scroll down to access the program (including abstract and learning objectives) for the workshop.

Event Name	Mandatory	Placement	Date	Topics	Status	Amount	Complete	
Induction Workshop - GP128 (Scale 1 & 2) - 2018/19	Yes	GP12	01/10/2018	Day 1: Registrar Training Requirements Overview Day 2: Responsibilities of GP Registrars	Completed	0.00	2.00	✓
Regional Workshop 1 - GP128 (Scale 1 & 2) - 2018/19	Yes	GP12	05/10/2018	Day 1: Contraception in GP Day 2: Upper limb, hands, chronic health, RSI	Completed	0.00	0.00	✓
Regional Workshop 2 - GP128 (Scale 1 & 2) - 2018/19	Yes	GP12	05/10/2018	Day 1: Risk Day Institute Day 2: Clinical Practice	Completed	0.00	0.00	✓
Forum Workshop 1 - GP128	Yes	GP12	22/09/2018	Day 1: A&P (Pathology, GP Health, Venereal) Day 2: Rural Skills - Infection & Blood, Asthma	Completed	0.00	0.00	✓
				Day 3: Assessment, Dermatology, Imaging	Completed	1.00	0.00	✓

Upcoming activities of interest

- Centre for Genetics Education, NSW Health - First Trimester Screening (including NIPT) Online Learning Resource | [More information](#)
- ACRRM - Advanced Life Support (ALS) | 24 September | Pokolbin | [More information](#)
- ACRRM - Rural Emergency Skills Training (REST) | 7-8 October | Canberra | [More information](#)
- ACRRM - Rural Emergency Skills Training (REST) | 25-26 November | Coffs Harbour | [More information](#)

For further information please see the [External Education Activity Noticeboard](#)