



Training Update



Director of Supervisor Education update

We are now a few weeks into the first registrar term of 2018. Hopefully your registrars are settling in well to your practice and appreciating the apprenticeship style of learning that is so rich in educational opportunities. Remember, there is a regional team of staff available to support you in your supervisor and training facility role. This includes regional Practice Liaison and Support Officers (PLSO), Medical Educators with Supervisor Portfolio (MESP) and Supervisor Liaison Officers (SLO). Please contact your PLSO as the first port of call should you have any need for advice or assistance.

The supervisor portfolio

The supervisor portfolio function on GPRime is now live. This allows each supervisor to review important information about their trainees and accreditation, indicates any items for action and also records information about professional development activities attended.

Do you know what your registrars think about the teaching and supervision they receive? It can be hard to find time to reflect on how things are going overall in your teaching and supervision. Registrars are encouraged to provide feedback on their supervisors through a formative assessment process twice each term. This appears in the supervisor portfolio under the 'trainee feedback' tab where supervisors can review the feedback provided by their trainees.

We know that giving and receiving feedback can be difficult. Encouraging a respectful two-way process allows both supervisors and registrars to reflect and improve in response to meaningful feedback. Should you wish to discuss any trainee feedback you receive please contact your regional supervisor support team – PLSO, MESP or SLO.

The supervisor toolkit

The supervisor toolkit is being reviewed and updated. This can be found by searching "toolkit" in the forms documents and links tab on GPRime. This toolkit contains many useful resources including the DOTS form that can be used when undertaking direct observation of your registrar.

Now is a good time to book in your teaching sessions for direct observation to inform your competency assessments due two or three times per term depending on the stage of training of the registrar. A one hour session of formal teaching for registrars in their first or second GP term can be used for direct observation and subsequent feedback through the competency assessment due in week 8, 16 and 24. The competency assessments completed by supervisors have been streamlined to reflect 21 competencies.

Professional Development (PD)

The supervisor PD program for 2018 has been expanded to include over 30 regional workshops and 18 webinars. The PD calendar includes details of all the GP Synergy PD activities offered this year. The regional workshop topics are 'Making the most of opportunistic teaching' and 'It ain't easy! Assessment and feedback'. There are a variety of webinars on offer as well and you should have received an expression of interest for the Combined Supervisor Development Day to be held on 16 June 2018 at the International Convention Centre in Sydney.

I look forward to seeing you at one of our supervisor PD events in 2018.

Dr Sarah Gani | Director of Supervisor Education – NSW and ACT



Are you seeking a GP registrar in the second half of 2018?

Update your training vacancies between 12 March - 3 April 2018.

See inside for more details.

Important information for practices seeking registrars in 2018.2

If you are seeking a registrar in the second half of 2018 (the 2018.2 term) you will need to advise your 'training capacity' and update your 'practice profile' between 12 March - 3 April 2018, in GPRime2.

Term placement dates



12 March - 3 April 2018: Update your 2018.1 training vacancies in GPRime2.

- If your profile is not updated by this date you may not be able to advertise placements to registrars for the 2018.2 term.
- Should a practice wish to update its training capacity after 3 April 2018, this will be subject to review by the regional head of education.

3 - 17 Apr 2018: Practice and supervisor cap review

- GP Synergy will review the available capacity in your subregion based on the information updated from practices and registrar re-enrolment.
- Following this review, GP Synergy may apply a cap on the number of registrars per practice or per supervisor to ensure equitable distribution across the subregion.
- Due to fluctuations in practice capacity and registrar numbers, this cap may vary from term to term.

18 April 2018: Practices notified of practice caps.

23 April 2018: Registrars will be able to apply to practices within their assigned grouping.

Important points to note:

- Registrars who train 28 hours = 0.5 in cap and registrars who train between 28.1 hours and 38 hours = 1 in cap.
- Registrars who will be in an Extension Awaiting Fellowship (EAF) term will be included in the cap.
- Registrars can spend longer than six months in a training facility. In doing so, registrars must ensure they are able to meet their training location requirements for their subregion and any college requirements which may apply to them. (i.e. RACGP requires registrars train across two practices during their training).
- How you select registrars to train in your practice is up to you. It is not a mandatory requirement to interview all of the registrars who apply to your practice.
- Applications for placements must be made through GPRime2. Placements will only be confirmed when GP Synergy receives co-signed copies of term placement paperwork through GPRime2. No other method of confirmation will be accepted.

Useful resources:

There are a number of useful resources available on GPRime2 under 'Forms, Documents and Links' called '[Term Placement Information for Practices](#)'.

This includes:

- Overview of Term Placement for Supervisors and Practices
- Term Placement FAQs for Supervisors and Practices
- Practice Caps Explained: Video by CEO John Oldfield
- Term placement GPRime2 instructional videos.



Webinars for practice staff and supervisors new to term placement

PLSOs will be holding a practical webinar to help new practice staff and supervisors:

1. understand how term placement works
2. learn how to update their training capacity in GPRime2
3. understand the importance of the 'practice profile' in GPRime2 and best practice examples
4. discuss selection techniques for selecting registrars
5. discuss contracts and registrar negotiation.

A recording of the webinar will be available on GPRime2 under 'Forms, Documents and Links' called 'Term Placement Information for Practices'.

Webinar dates and how to register:

- Wednesday 14 March: 12.30pm-1.30pm | [Link to join](#)

New supervisor portfolio module 'one stop shop' on GPRime

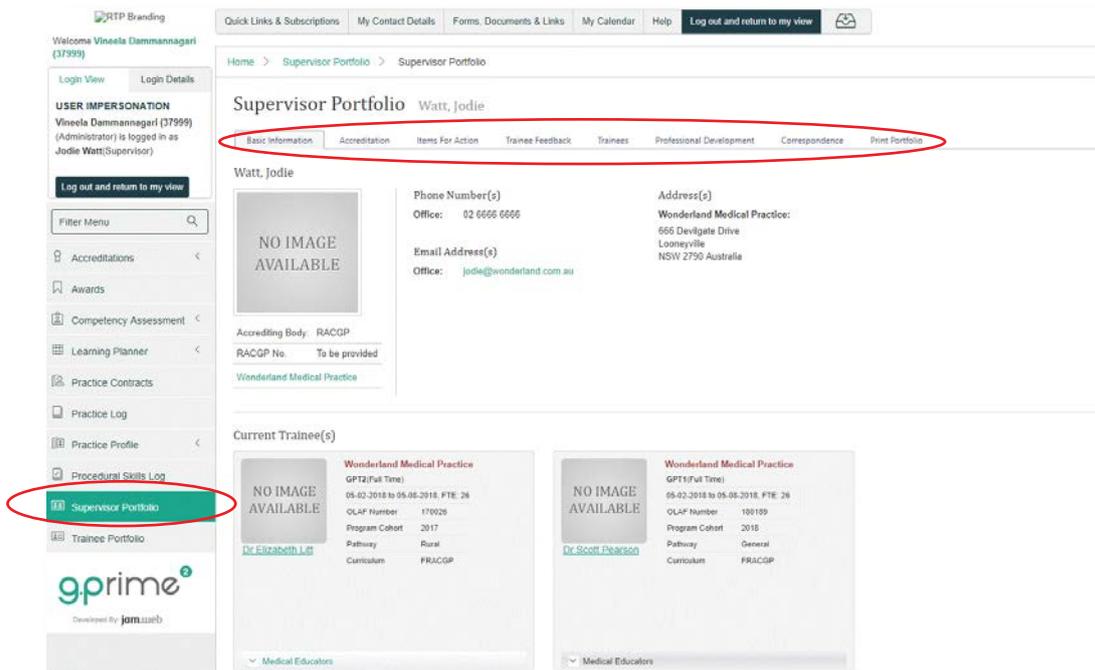
We are very excited to release the new 'Supervisor Portfolio' module on GPRime2 to help streamline supervisor activity and provide supervisors information in one easy to find location.

Key features

The supervisor module includes:

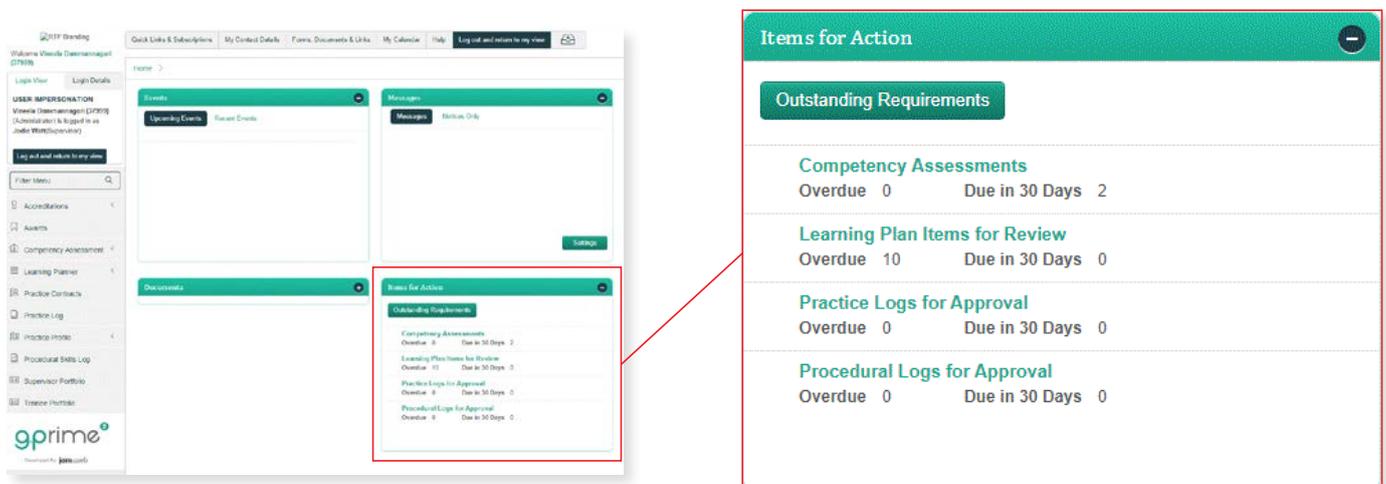
- Current and past trainees – Find a list of your past and current trainees.
- Professional development history – See a record of all GP Synergy events you have attended, plus access workshop resources.
- 'Items for action' summary – Access a list of upcoming and outstanding training requirements requiring your attention (also available via the dashboard – see below).
- Accreditation details – See your accreditation history and status.
- Trainee feedback – Access your registrar's formative assessments.
- Correspondence – Find a list of correspondence sent through GPRime2.

The new module can be found in the left-hand toolbar of GPRime2. Once in the module, use the tabs across the top of the screen.



'Items for action' home page dashboard tile

There is also a neat new 'tile' on the 'dashboard' of GPRime2, which shows supervisors any items overdue or coming up for action within the next 30 days, to help supervisors manage their tasks.



 If you need any assistance with the module, please contact your PLSO (contact details at the back of this newsletter).

MESP (Medical Educator with Supervisor Portfolio) Update

Welcome to the first MESP update. This will be a regular feature of the monthly training update.

What's a MESP?

The MESP is a Medical Educator with Supervisor Portfolio and forms part of the supervisor support team along with the Practice Liaison and Support Officers (PLSO) and Supervisor Liaison Officers (SLO).

Each region has a MESP whose role is to provide educational support to supervisors. This support is available to assist you with any educational challenges you face in your teaching or supervision of registrars and might also be useful when you have a high-flying registrar you want to extend further. If you need some guidance about resources to support your teaching and supervision the MESP for your region can assist you.

The MESP's are also involved in the development and delivery of supervisor professional development. You will have the opportunity to meet the MESP for your region at your regional supervisor workshops and at the Combined Supervisor Development Day on 16 June 2018.

I am the MESP for Nepean, Western and Northern Sydney and I work one day a week within the medical education team for that region, led by Catherine Casey, Regional Head of Education. I have already visited a number of supervisors within their practices in our region and I can provide support and assistance on educational matters where appropriate. In subsequent updates you will meet the different members of the MESP team through NSW and ACT.

Dr Sarah Gani | Director of Education and MESP – Nepean, Western and Northern Sydney

Meet your MESP team



North Coast
Rob Trigger and Claudia Long
rob_trigger@gpsynergy.com.au
claudia_long@gpsynergy.com.au



Central, Eastern and South Western Sydney
Joanna Bruce
(and Rula Ali on maternity leave)
joanna_bruce@gpsynergy.com.au



Hunter, Manning and Central Coast
Simon Morgan
simon_morgan@gpsynergy.com.au



Murrumbidgee and ACT
Marjorie Cross
marjorie_cross@gpsynergy.com.au



Western NSW
Skye Boughen
skye_boughen@gpsynergy.com.au



South Eastern NSW
Richard Griffiths
richard_griffiths@gpsynergy.com.au



Nepean, Western and Northern Sydney
Sarah Gani
sarah_gani@gpsynergy.com.au

Reminder - GPTEC abstracts

Abstracts are now open for the 2018 General Practice Training and Education Conference (GPTEC) being held in Adelaide 11-13 September 2018.

Abstracts close 15 March 2018. For more information visit the GPTEC [website](#).

GP Synergy will be subsidising a limited number of supervisors to attend GPTEC. Further information will be circulated in due course.



The benefits of undertaking an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health training post

This edition, we asked six GPs currently training and working in an ACCHS in New England/Northwest about their Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander experience.



Dr James White – GPT2

My introduction to training in Aboriginal health has been very interesting. There are challenges in the different cultural approach to health, but the most enjoyable aspect of working here is the larger team than you would normally have in a practice. The Aboriginal health workers make up a very supportive team in tracking down patients and getting involved in looking after people they know well, we're more tools for them instead of us organising everything.



Dr Camilla King – GPT3

I wanted to get exposure to all facets of medicine so I deliberately sought out training at an ACCHS. There were deficits in my learning in respect to dermatology and my supervisor, Dr Julia Fomiatti, is an expert and that's her passion, so I thought if I can couple learning from her plus learning and getting exposure to Aboriginal health that is going to be a big win.



Dr Xuchu (James) Tong – GPT3

The thing I enjoy about training here is the longer appointments, so you really do get to explore the various medical issues; there is less of a focus on costs so there is a very different expectation. I also appreciate the extensive support available- there is access to Aboriginal health workers, dental care, psychologists and nurses that are all here to help.



Dr Yun Lam (Kenneth) Cheung – Extension Awaiting Fellowship

Although I think Aboriginal health has its challenges, in general working here is great because of the concept of being a community-owned health service. The Aboriginal health workers and receptionists are from the community, and it makes a difference. One of the challenges is getting clients to return and having those community connections helps.



Dr Julia Fomiatti – GP supervisor

I enjoy helping my registrars become competent, confident professionals who love what they do and who will develop the passion I have about early detection of disease and keeping people alive for longer. The complexity of cases seen is just amazing. From a medical perspective it's both challenging and exciting to work at improving the health of our Indigenous population.



Dr Suha Tazami – GP

I trained here for a year, I'm now a fully qualified GP and I was offered an extension to stay on. I've already started some outreach community programs – we are working on school screening for kids, screening at PCYC programs like boxing, and other community sporting events. We take the opportunity to be there and offer health screening and other health promotions. It's all very exciting!

How can you find out more?

To find out more about Aboriginal health, training posts, culturally significant dates and resources, head to the GP Synergy Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander website: <https://aboriginalhealth.gpsynergy.com.au/>



EOI now open for Combined Supervisor Workshop - 16 June, Sydney



All supervisors should have recently received an invitation to express their interest to attend the annual GP Synergy Combined Supervisor Workshop in Sydney on 16 June 2018.

The workshop features a bumper program, with more than 12 sessions running across five streams.

Last year over 250 supervisors attended.

For more information, please check your email and access the program [here](#). Alternatively, contact [Jacky Porter](#).

Can you ssssssqueeze me in?



One rural practice demonstrated how you really never know what's going to come through the door next in general practice, with the first patient of the day being a brown snake.

Homespace at Calala in Tamworth swiftly contacted the local fire brigade to remove the unwelcome patient.

Thanks to Dr Ian Kamerman for sharing this story and image with us.

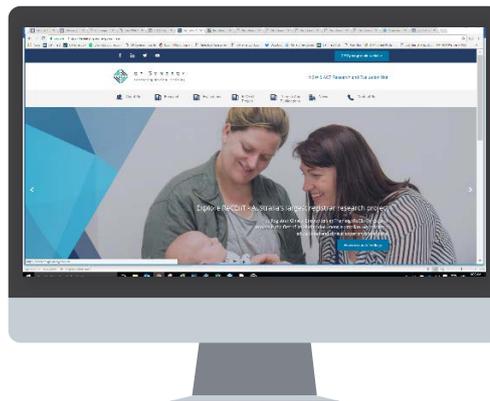
Got a story to share? Contact us at news@gpsynergy.com.au

Stay up to date – join us on Facebook

Check out the latest news, find out what your peers are up to, and see photos from training across GP Synergy by liking our facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/gpsynergy/>



New website showcases research from thousands of GP registrar consultations



We are excited to launch a new website showcasing research from over 247,000 GP registrar clinical encounters across NSW and ACT collected as part of the Commonwealth funded Registrar Clinical Encounters in Training (ReCEnT) research study.

As the ReCEnT project documents Australian GP registrars' educational and clinical experience over time, the flagship ReCEnT project is a valuable contributor to the state, national and global general practice education and training research pool.

Located on the website are more than 50 published papers and 80 conference presentations covering topics from antibiotic prescribing to emergency department referral patterns to clinical encounters with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patients and more.

The website ensures these research outcomes are easily accessible and contribute even further to evidence-based practice and also includes additional GP training research projects being undertaken by GP Synergy's Research and Evaluation Unit.

As active contributors to this research, we encourage all supervisors and registrars to take a look at the website: <https://research.gpsynergy.com.au/>

Key dates



12 Mar: Practices can start to update their training capacity for term 2 2018 on GPRime2.

3 Apr: Deadline for practices to update their training capacity for term 2 2018 on GPRime2.

18 Apr: Practices advised of their training capacity cap.

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

22 Jun: Deadline for Medicare provider number paperwork.

5 Aug: End date term 1 2018.

 For a list of important training dates, see the new key dates calendar on our [website](#).

Workshops to welcome registrars starting GP terms

More than 505 registrars entering their first or second GP term attended seven events held across our eight subregions during the first week of term in February.

Run by local medical education teams, the workshops featured a number of core topics such as dermatology, emergencies in general practice, professionalism and rational test ordering. They also featured regionalised elements specific to the local population healthcare needs for the subregion such as paediatric asthma, gastrointestinal disease, internal medicine cases and refugee health.

Below are some photos from some of these workshops held in Dubbo, Canberra and GP Synergy's new training space in Armidale. For more photos, head to our [image gallery](#).



National Close the Gap Day – 15 March 2018

It is over ten years ago that the Closing the Gap government campaign commenced. The program aims to reduce disadvantage among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with respect to life expectancy, child mortality, and access to early childhood education, educational achievement, and employment outcomes.

Close the Gap Day aims to bring together government, individuals and organisations to share information and take meaningful action to close the health and life expectancy gap between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and non-Indigenous Australians, within a generation.

For more information visit: <https://www.humanrights.gov.au/our-work/aboriginal-and-torres-strait-islander-social-justice/projects/close-gap-indigenous-health>



External activities of interest

- University Centre for Rural Health, North Coast PHN and University of Wollongong - Health Innovations Conference | 10-11 March | Kingscliff | [More information](#)
- The Ballina Byron Clinical Society, Byron Central Hospital and North Coast Primary Health Network - Byron Bay Speed Networking | 22 March | Byron Bay | [More information](#)

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

New medical student scholarship recipients welcomed



Last month we were delighted to welcome the new cohort of GP Synergy medical student scholarship recipients at a fundamentals in research workshop.

As part of their scholarship, the students will be undertaking a research project and community GP placement in a rural or Aboriginal health setting. At the workshop they got some great tips and skills to use for the year ahead. We're looking forward to hearing from them later in the year!

Need some help?

Practice Liaison and Support Officers (PLSO)

- **Central, Eastern and South Western Sydney:**
A new PLSO for this region, Alyse Piggott, will commence in mid-March. In the interim, please call 1300 477 963 or email plso@gpsynergy.com.au
- **Hunter, Manning and Central Coast:**
Lucinda Coble - 02 8321 4237
lucinda_coble@gpsynergy.com.au
- **Nepean, Western and Northern Sydney:**
Emie Roy - 02 8321 4068
emie_roy@gpsynergy.com.au
- **New England/Northwest:**
Lucinda Coble - 02 8321 4237
lucinda_coble@gpsynergy.com.au
- **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
- **Central, Eastern and South Western Sydney:**
Dr Aline Smith - aline_smith@gpsynergy.com.au
- **Hunter New England Central Coast**
Dr Ian Charlton - ian_charlton@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:

- ACT