

News from the Field



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Fairfield Hospital

Message From The GM



The National Close the Gap celebrations were a huge success this year with many staff attending the formal ceremony—a very big thank you for the support of all staff (more information later in newsletter)

I've already updated you on our recent accreditation survey that was held last November in a previous newsletter. Just to update we have returned the draft report without amendment - given the praise we received I thought we should just graciously accept the accolades and await the final report which usually

doesn't vary a great deal from the draft.

We continue to be one of the best performing Hospitals within the District and indeed NSW with regard to our Emergency Department access targets. Whilst we never concentrate on the target, but rather on how we can best have our patients assessed and treated in the most timely manner (verified by the NEAT tool) - it is very gratifying to have all Fairfield's wonderful staff efforts recognised by a statistical tool such as NEAT.

I just can't believe that we are already into the first week of

April—I've been lucky enough to have been here a year now (thanks for putting up with me!), the Easter Bunny is just about to hop around to all your houses and we move into virtually a 10 day Easter break.

Many will enjoy this well earned break before the winter challenges, some of us will have the 7 day break, whilst other will work through and keep the Hospital running smoothly as always—thank you to of those staff from those of us lucky enough to have the time off—Happy Easter

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Close the Gap

This year, Fairfield Hospital supported National Close the Gap Day on Friday 21 March 2014, with a focus on improving identification of Aboriginal patients who present to the Hospital. Fairfield Hospital's new Aboriginal Liaison Officer Sharon Brown said the Hospital was committed to making sure Aboriginal patients felt comfortable and happy remaining in hospital to receive treatment for as long as they needed to.

"My role as the Aboriginal Liaison Officer is to work collaboratively with the other health professionals within the hospital, to best meet the needs of our Aboriginal patients. We understand that Aboriginal

patients might be uncomfortable visiting hospital because of past experiences, but Fairfield is committed to improving the health of Aboriginal people and we are working on a number of different programs to help staff provide more respectful, responsive and culturally sensitive services."

The important qualities at Fairfield Hospital have been the increase awareness and education to all staff regarding speaking out and asking the question to all patrons presenting to the hospital about identifying Aboriginal origin. Respecting the Difference Aboriginal Cultural Training commenced and already 491 Fairfield Hospital Aboriginal and Non Aboriginal Staff have undertaken the online training and now participating in the face to

face workshops. The training will help improve knowledge and understanding of the diverse culture, customs, heritage and health needs of Aboriginal communities in NSW.

Close the Gap Day is Australia's largest Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health campaign which aims to close the gap in life expectancy between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, and other Australians.



Community

The Fairfield Consumer and Community Participation Network welcomed four new members to its network during its March meeting.

The Network welcomes Lorraine Mock, Linda Smith Najia Kjalil and Inocenta Marco. Our new members will go through orientation during early April before they decide which hospital committees they would like to join.

The network also had the opportunity to meet Sharon Brown – Fairfield Hospital Aboriginal Liaison Officer and Mathew Palmer from Medicare Local.

Women Resource Booklet

As part of International Woman's Week, Liverpool Hospital screened the movie "Girl Rising" which is a feature film about the strength of human spirit and the power of education to change the world for women who face struggles such as poverty, barriers to education, slavery, early marriage and other injustices. Fairfield Hospital has put together a booklet that outlines all the services available for women in the local Fairfield Community.

The booklet will be located in the library for all staff, patients and carers to have access to.

Seniors Fair

Fairfield Hospital took part in the 2014 Seniors Fair at the Epoch Plaza Fairfield. This year the event aimed to promote physical and emotional wellbeing. The event celebrated active, healthy independent seniors involved in their communities.

Fairfield Hospital was represented by the Diabetes Clinic. Representatives from Dental Clinic and Braeside were also in attendance.

The Fair was a success with a large number of seniors attending the event to enjoy the stall, food and entertainment provided on the day.



Top5 Launch

As part of Seniors Week Fairfield Hospital launched its TOP5 initiative in Ward 2A on Tuesday 25 March 2014 with a morning tea. Top 5 is a partnership approach to care for people who have memory and communication difficulties such as dementia.

Staff work with a patient's carer to tap into knowledge and expertise of the person who has become the patient.

Together Top5 is developed to help provide a better health outcome for the patient with memory problems.

Wound Awareness Week

Wound Awareness Week was held during 24 – 28 March 2014. Fairfield Hospital raised awareness with an information table in the foyer for visitors and patients.

Children's Carnival

Fairfield Hospital Paediatric department participated in the Children's Carnival held on 15 March 2014 at Fairfield High School. Thank you to the hard work of Dr. Laurence McCleary and his team for devoting their Saturday to promote our services.

Fairfield Hospital is committed to attending community expos to promote the great services and programs it offers and provide an opportunity to build confidence for the community to come to Fairfield Hospital for their health issues and emergencies.

During the month of May, Fairfield Hospital will also be participating in the *Engaging Schools & Community Forum* as well as the *Community Services Expo*.

You can use your Private Health Insurance @ Fairfield

In February 2014, the number of patients that elected to use their private health insurance whilst being treated at Fairfield Hospital was recorded at 8.05%. Patients utilising their private health insurance assist Fairfield Hospital potentially help improve services within the hospital. Many patients don't utilize their private health insurance because they have concerns about out-of-

pocket expenses and an increase in their premiums, however patients that choose to use their private health insurance on admission should not increase their premiums. In certain cases, individual doctors charge private gap fees. To confirm which doctors do charge please contact our Private Patient Officer's. Utilising private health insurance while at hospital benefits patients as they able to choose the doctor who will responsible for

their care throughout the admission. Additionally patients receive items such as: * free car parking pass for one nominated visitor, *free TV rental, *free overnight toiletries , *free daily newspaper. For further information or any queries you may have regarding private patients please contact our Private Patient Officers on 9616 8233.

Able & Stable Program

The Able and Stable Program is coordinated and run by the Fairfield Hospital Falls Intervention Team (FIT). It is a comprehensive, evidence –based falls prevention program incorporating gentle exercise, education and home exercise prescription, over a nine week period, held in the Physiotherapy Gym. The participants have a range of risk factors which lead them to be referred to the group such as : poor balance, reduced leg strength, loss of confidence, poor vision, decreased physical activity and home hazards. By attending this group, the participants aim to improve in each of these areas

and increase their knowledge in falls prevention and hazard identification. Each participant is assessed in the initial phase of the program, at completion of the program and then three months following the program. The team assesses the participants' physical ability, their knowledge of falls prevention and their confidence in completing daily activities. Data collected in 2013 demonstrated a decrease of 86% in falls incidence as a result of completing the program and 79% of participants continued with their exercise. The FIT are very proud of the achievements made by this cycle

of participants and look forward to the next three cycles of the year. The FIT would like to thank the participants, carers and all the staff involved in the education and exercise sessions for making this fantastic program possible . Next month a local consumer walking group will be coming in for a presentation on the program. If you would like to know more information about the program, please contact the Ambulatory Care Unit FIT on 9616 8999 or Physiotherapy on 9616 8324.



Grand rounds

Grand Rounds on Wednesday 5 March 2014 was presented by Ambulatory Care on the topic "Ambulatory Care Services" by Dr Tai Tak Wan, Medical Director.

Grand Rounds on Wednesday 19 March 2014 was presented by the Department of Paediatrics on the topic "Acute Renal Failure in the Paediatric Age group" Case presentation by Dr Bedros Baliozian RMO

Staff

Congratulations!

New babies have arrived for our pharmacists. Congratulations to Moheb Elsubky. Its wonderful news that your baby girl Carol has arrived happy and healthy.

May you cherish many joyous memories with Carol.



Also congratulations to Manuel Matta on the arrival of your new baby Anthony. We hope this is a wonderful time filled with lots of joy and happiness.

Cheryl Crofts is our new Library Technician who has replaced Anna Redestowicz, who retired. Cheryl is at Fairfield on Mondays and she can assist you with any Library matter.

The Library Manager Barbara Gifford is a JP and can help you with matters that need a JP. The JP handbook has been revised with specific steps a JP must follow, so please allow a bit more time.

DynaMed is a clinical reference tool created for physicians and other healthcare professionals. There are three ways to access the resource

1. Within the Hospital
2. Offsite access at home
3. Mobile access – Phone/Tablet/Ipad

Beena Roy has commenced in the role of permanent part time Clinical Nurse Specialist after hours. Beena also works in the HDU.

Catherine Lip and Samuel Cheng are the two new Registrars for the GP unit. Dr Sanjyot Vagholker has left the GP unit after ten years of service to complete her PhD.

WH&S

[March was Fire and Security Safety month at Fairfield Hospital.](#)

There are still vacant WHS Representative positions for the NEW committee, nominations close Tuesday 15 April 2014. The below places are still available:

Nursing X 4 ... Medical Division X1 ... Administration X1

Nominations forms can be placed in the WHS managers pigeon hole or by email. cveta.andary@sswahs.nsw.gov.au

Harmony Day

Food Services celebrated Harmony Day on Wednesday 19 March 2014 in the Hospital cafeteria with a Diverse and Multi-cultural lunch made by the Food Services staff even the work experience students participated with a dish. Nutrition and Dietetics were also invited to celebrate this event. There were two food feasts, one for the day staff and one for the night staff. "It was a very successful day that brought the Food Services team together and we hope to involve all Hospital departments in the 2015 Harmony Day celebrations"



Food Services Manager Kerry Garufi said.



Fluvax Vaccine

Fluvax Vaccine is now available for all staff free of charge. In order to protect yourself and vulnerable patients of the health service, you are strongly encouraged to be immunised. To get immunised staff can present at the General Practice Unit.

Every Tuesday morning from 0830-1200 hrs.

Every Thursday afternoon 1300-1600 hrs (Except 10 April)

Mobile flu clinic days: Friday 11/04/14 – 1300-16.00hrs (level 2)



The GM Arnold Tammekand and Susie Dietsch getting the FluVax