HEALTH NETWORKS QUARTERLY REPORT
JULY - SEPTEMBER 2018

CONNECT

63
Total number of new member subscriptions to the Health Networks data base this quarter. (1)

3
New Clinical Co-Leads appointed to 2 Health Networks. (2)

25
People attended the launch of Let's Prevent Program in Bunbury during National Diabetes Week. (3)

SHARE

3
Academic cadets gaining work experience within the Health Networks. (4)

19
Workshops for people interested in the draft WA Men's Health and Wellbeing Policy. (5)

10
Women attended the Health Networks Branch Women's Health Week Lunch. (6)

IMPROVE

4000
Invitations sent to engage major stakeholders in the evaluation of the WA Disability Framework and Disability Toolkit for Change. (7)

12
Number of new pathways open for consultation to obtain expert input. (8)

748
Responses to the Consumer engagement Survey “Is weight a weight on your mind?”. (9)
NOTES

1) There are 63 ‘new member’ subscriptions to the Health Networks Branch data base, calculated from 1 July to 30 September 2018.

2) Health Networks Branch has filled the vacant Health Network Lead positions with three passionate and influential people accepting Co-Lead positions. Dr Rick Bond has joined Dr Tony Mylius to Co-Lead the Cardiovascular Health Network and, Dr Chris Griffin and Kate Reynolds have been appointed to Co-Lead roles for the Women’s and Newborns Health Network.

3) 25 local stakeholders including Member for Bunbury Mr Don Punch MLA gathered in Bunbury, during National Diabetes Week, 8-14 July 2018 to launch the Let’s Prevent Program. This pilot initiative is funded by the State Government, supported through WA Health Networks, and aims to prevent or delay the onset of type 2 diabetes, stroke, and heart disease in adults.

Beginning in August, Diabetes WA rolled out the new Let's Prevent program throughout the Bunbury region. It is a free program that provides adults with practical information, skills, and support so they can make positive lifestyle changes. It is delivered by trained local health providers in multiple locations across the region and integrates with existing primary care pathways.

For more information on Let’s Prevent, contact Diabetes WA on 1300 001 880 or via their website.

4) Health Networks is connecting with the academic sector by offering three students from three different University’s academic cadet work experience. Bhaumik (Mike) Mevavala from Murdoch University and Samantha Tang from the University of Notre Dame are working on the Obesity Collaborative project. Victoria Dolan from the University of Western Australia is working with the Cardiovascular Health Network.


Four metropolitan and 15 regional workshops were held across WA for anyone interested in helping to shape the draft WA Men's Health and Wellbeing Policy.

The purpose of this policy is to provide direction to WA Health and its partners to deliver strategies that improve the physical, mental, social, and emotional wellbeing of men and boys living in WA and demonstrate WA’s commitment towards achieving the National Male Health Policy outcomes.

6) This year’s Women’s Health Week 3-7 September 2018, focused on encouraging all women to make time to put themselves first and make their own good health a priority. Health Networks Branch got into the spirit with a ‘Let’s have a chat about Women's Health’ lunch. Ten participants bought their own lunch, joined in a collegial chat and received a ‘Women, it’s time we put ourselves first’ resource pack.

7) The WA Disability Health Framework 2015-2016 and Disability Toolkit for Change evaluation survey is complete. Information gathered will be included in the 2019 Disability Health Network Achievements Infographic and will inform engagement activities for 2019. The survey had a secondary benefit of increasing awareness of both the framework and the toolkit as over 4000 invitations to participate were sent.

8) HealthPathways WA is a web-based portal with information on assessment, referral, and management pathways helping clinicians to navigate through the complex primary, community, and acute health care system in WA.

The WA health system in partnership with the WA Primary Health Alliance (WAPHA) ensures pathways are developed and customised for WA, with the key focus on improving integration between primary, secondary, and tertiary care. Health Networks has a key role in the consultation of these pathways.

In this reporting period, input and feedback were sought from experts via online consultation for the following 12 pathways:

- ENT:
  - Hearing Loss in Adults,
  - Tinnitus
- General Medicine - Cellulitis
- Genetics - Ehlers-Danlos Syndromes
- Haematology:
  - Anaemia in Adults
  - Child Health - Anaemia in Children
- Sexual Health:
  - Bacterial Vaginosis,
  - Candidiasis,
  - Genitavonosis,
  - Genital Herpes,
  - Mycoplasma Genitalium,
  - Trichomiasis

9) There were 748 responses to the Consumer Engagement Survey “Is weight a weight on your mind?” for the Obesity Collaborative Project.

The Project team is vigorously pursuing consumer engagement to:

- Ensure that the consumers’ perspectives are reflected in the future targets for action
- Recruit and engage a group of people with experience of living with overweight or obesity who are interested in being consumer champions
- Gather and record people’s stories about their lived experience of accessing programs, services and advice to assist them with weight management
- Support consumers to engage with the Project, the project team, and other key stakeholders to ensure the Project centres on the needs, desires, and expectations of consumers
- Develop resources to document people’s stories for use throughout the Project.