



WentWest and the APCC

WentWest is participating in the fourth State Wave of Phase 2 of the Australian Primary Care Collaboratives (APCC) Program. The fourth State Wave offered 8 places for Practices from WentWest of the 80 places available nationally.

The program provides an opportunity for Practices to get together with colleagues at a series of learning workshops to exchange ideas, share experiences and learn about practical quality improvement skills including the successful 'Model for Improvement'. Back at the Practice teams will apply strategies to deliver measurable, systematic and sustainable improvements in Practice performance and the care provided to patients.

Practices participating in the program will:

- Improve the patient health outcomes
- Enhance Practice clinical reporting and functionality
- Build a stronger Practice team and improve Practice efficiency and performance
- Enhance quality improvement skills of Practice staff
- Receive a financial Practice incentive to participate
- Attain professional development points for GPs and Practice Nurses.

Participants are three months into the 18-month program and have collected their baseline data, completed their first Plan Do Study Act (PDSA) cycle through the improvement model and have attended the first learning workshop. Using the Canning Tool Practices are able to look at patients' health status in a snap shot in what is commonly termed as 'Herd Health' and address patient health issues around the topic areas of Diabetes and Coronary Heart Disease. Practices have begun with data cleansing and are working towards patient recalls to address a total of 26 clinical indicators, such as HbA1c for diabetes and blood pressure for Coronary Heart Disease.

A Local Wave of the APCC program will be run in 2010 in which another 20 Practices from the WentWest area will be given the opportunity to participate in the quality improvement program. The main difference between the State Wave and Local Wave is that the participants will only be required to attend evening workshops held in the WentWest geographical areas whereas State Wave participants are required to attend two full-day Learning Workshops in Brighton Le Sands. Expressions of interest will be posted to Practices at the end of 2009.

For more information, please contact your Area Services Co-ordinator on (02) 8833 8029 or email support@wentwest.com.au.