

Developments



A newsletter for referring General Practitioners | July 2015

From the Chief Executive

Welcome to *Developments*, Children's Health Queensland's (CHQ) official newsletter for referring General Practitioners (GPs).

CHQ understands the vital role you play in many of our patients' lives and continuing healthcare.

We also understand the need to work closely with our referring GPs as we strive to deliver the best possible healthcare for our children.

We'll use this regular newsletter to keep you informed of enhancements to areas like referral processes and discharge summaries and to share other relevant news and events.

Any changes to our processes will also be reflected on the 'Refer a patient' section of our website at www.childrens.health.qld.gov.au/referapatient

Thanks for your continued support and we look forward to working with you and your patients throughout 2015.

Kind regards,

Fionnagh Dougan

Chief Executive, Children's Health Queensland

Referrals and catchments

The Lady Cilento Children's Hospital (LCCH) provides specialist and sub-specialist paediatric care to Queensland children, both locally and state-wide.

Its location in South Brisbane also means that it provides general paediatric care for children and young people living in the inner-Brisbane area.

The LCCH catchment for general paediatrics includes suburbs located within the Brisbane City Council local government area, with the exception of some suburbs in Brisbane's north which are serviced by The Prince Charles Hospital (TPCH).

In addition to TPCH, hospitals that provide general paediatric services in South East Queensland include the Gold Coast University Hospital and the Ipswich, Logan, Redland, Redcliffe and Caboolture hospitals. Children should usually be referred to their closest hospital for general paediatrics.

Sub-specialties at the LCCH vary in their eligibility criteria, with some services accepting referrals from GPs, while others require a referral from another paediatrician. Consult our website for specific requirements for our various sub-specialties.

To view the catchment areas for LCCH and other hospitals in the South East providing general paediatric services, go to www.childrens.health.qld.gov.au/referapatient/catchment-areas

Paediatric Masterclass

Children's Health Queensland will host a Paediatric Masterclass for General Practice on Saturday, 24 October 2015.

The event will include an optional tour of Lady Cilento Children's Hospital, followed by sessions on the following topics:

- Obesity
- Allergy
- Constipation
- UTI
- Childhood cough
- Child protection
- Refugee health
- And more

The Masterclass will also include practical workshops: ENT and vision testing.

To register your interest and receive a program (to be finalised end July), visit www.childrens.health.qld.gov.au/lcch-events or email CHQ.GPLO@health.qld.gov.au

RACGP and ACRRM CPD points have been applied for.



Changes to the 'Red book'

From July, an updated version of the Personal Health Record (PHR), also known as the 'Red book', will be rolled out across Queensland.



One of the major changes will be the inclusion of the parental assessment of developmental status (PEDS) screening tool at the 6 month, 12 month, 18 month, 2.5 years and 4-5 year checks.

PEDS is an evidence-based, parent-completed tool providing comprehensive coverage of all domains of development. It is a simple and adaptable 10-item questionnaire that promotes a family-centred approach to practice driven by parents.

PEDS is currently used as a primary developmental screen in many states and territories in Australia and has been recommended for use by the child development sub-network- Queensland Child and Youth Clinical Network. PEDS will be licensed for use in the Queensland Health PHR for a five-year period.

At present all child health nurses and Indigenous Health workers working in Hospital and Health Services are being trained to score the PEDS with parents. If a child fails the PEDS the child health nurse will undertake a secondary developmental screen using the Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ3).

CHQ primary care liaison

Children's Health Queensland understands that GPs and their primary care teams provide continuing, comprehensive care to patients and that our role at LCCH is to provide high-quality episodic care as needed.

We are working hard to improve the interface between our services and general practice. Through our primary care liaison team, we will continually review and strive to improve our communication with you.

We intend to launch an online format of this newsletter (*Developments*) in the coming weeks, so keep a look out for changes and enhancements to future editions.

As always, our primary care liaison team welcomes your feedback and can be contacted by emailing CHQ.GPLO@health.qld.gov.au or call 3068 3648 (business hours).

New child protection laws

On 19 January 2015, mandatory reporting for doctors and registered nurses moved from the *Public Health Act 2005* to the *Child Protection Act 1999*.

This means that while doctors and registered nurses continue to be mandatory reporters, the threshold to make a report to Child Safety Services has changed to:

a reasonable suspicion that a child has suffered, is suffering, or is at unacceptable risk of suffering significant harm caused by physical and sexual abuse and may not have a parent able and willing to protect them from harm (health staff do not have to investigate or prove that a parent may not be able and willing).

This does not preclude mandatory reporters from reporting significant harm caused by emotional/psychological abuse or neglect.

Family and Child Connect

If your concerns don't reach the threshold for a report to Child Safety Services, but the family has multiple or complex needs that would benefit from support services, or you believe further identification of the family's needs is required, then obtain the family's **consent** and refer them to Family and Child Connect (FaCC).

FaCC is a new community-based intake and referral service that provides another pathway for referring concerns about children and their families. The service is designed to support vulnerable families by assessing their needs and referring them to the most appropriate support service/s.

For more information

Internet: Visit the Child Safety Services website www.communities.qld.gov.au/childsafety which contains links to information on how to report child abuse, including a secure 'Suspected child in need of protection' online form. You can also view or download the *Child Protection Guide* and contact details for FaCC in your area.

Tel: Call your Regional Intake Service (business hours) or the Child Safety After Hours Service Centre on 1800 177 135 or (07) 3235 9999 (this service operates 24 hours, seven days).

Website changes under way

From July, referring doctors and patients will notice some changes to the 'Health Professionals' section of the Lady Cilento Children's Hospital website.

We have listened to feedback from our referring doctors and have redesigned these pages so that key information, particularly around referrals, is easier to find.

Comprehensive referral information and management guidelines will also be progressively uploaded to ensure we support GPs in their care of children and young people.