

Expression of Interest

Managing patients with heart failure in primary care

Heart failure is a complex clinical syndrome that is estimated to affect 480,000 Australians. Multiple hospitalisations are common for people with heart failure and prognosis is generally poor, with 50% of people with severe heart failure dying within one year of diagnosis.

The continued ageing of the Australian population, as well as the impacts of deferred care throughout the pandemic, contributes to an increasing burden of heart failure in Victoria.

Research and public health recommendations outline a clear need for general practice teams and Primary Health Networks in partnership to improve long-term management and support for those at risk or diagnosed with heart failure; and support effective translation of research into clinical practice.

Eastern Melbourne PHN is seeking to recruit four general practices to participate in a quality improvement (QI) program and apply a whole of practice approach to enhance their management of patients with heart failure. Through attendance at collaborative workshops and completion of PDSA cycles provided by the *HeartPlan in a Box QI Toolkit*, general practices will be supported to align their management with recommendations from the *National Heart Foundation of Australia and Cardiac Society of Australia and New Zealand: Guidelines for the Prevention, Detection, and Management of Heart Failure in Australia 2018*.

All general practices located within the EMPHN catchment are encouraged to apply.

What's in it for the practice?

- This activity will support general practices to undertake data-driven quality improvement
- Incentive payments upon meeting objectives, up to \$7,000
- Greater understanding and support for best-practice clinical management and local care navigation
- Access to clinical champions to consult with your clinical team and connection to local health practitioners
- CPD points available for completing relevant GP and Practice Nurse activities
- Improve heart failure outcomes and experience for patients

Required Activities

General practices will:

- Ensure their GP, Practice Nurse and Practice Manager are available attend the Program Workshops.
- Provide weekly protected time for the QI activities to be undertaken
- Educate the broader clinical team regarding their new skills/knowledge
- Collect baseline data and activity data

Eligibility Criteria

General practices must meet the following criteria:

- Be located within the Eastern Melbourne PHN catchment
- Be accredited against the RACGP Standards for general practice
- Have POLAR installed or agree to have it installed before commencement of the program
- Have and nominate a GP, Practice Nurse and Practice Manager to attend four Program Workshops over the program activity period, including one consultation with a heart failure clinical nurse consultant (1.5 hours-2 hours each), and complete the QI activities.

Practice support

EMPHN facilitators will be available as required to support the practice in data collection and program implementation.

Incentive payments

Participating general practices will receive payments up to a total value of \$7,000 (per practice) subject (but not limited to) the below deliverables:

- Participation in the 7 month program activity period, spanning from 30 January 2023 – 31 August 2023.
- Attendance at four Program Workshops over this period, including one consultation with a heart failure clinical nurse consultant (1.5-2 hours each)
- Completion of QI activities to enhance practice capacity, including collection and provision of data to the PHN. (3x Plan-Do-Study-Act cycles)
- Completion of program evaluation activities

How do I apply for participation in this program?

EMPHN will be releasing this expression of interest via an online system ([eProcure](#)). This system enables EMPHN to provide a transparent and accountable process in line with Commonwealth guidelines.

Registering is free, and easy to do, just follow these steps:

1. follow this [link](#)
2. complete the registration form
3. select register

You will then be able to complete the Expression of Interest.

A helpdesk is available to assist with questions related to eProcure. Please call 1800 377 628 or use the online chat service.

Applications open: 2pm Monday 2 November 2022

Applications close: 2pm Friday 18 November 2022

Enquiries:

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