**PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITY for Darebin, Hume and Whittlesea regions**

**Summary**

An exciting opportunity exists for a general practice to become a partner with Melbourne Sexual Health Centre (MSHC) to join the Victorian Sexual Health Network (VSHN). Through this partnership the GP practice will receive education and ongoing support from MSHC in relation to STI testing and management.

This document describes the VSHN and what the partnership entails.

If your practice is interested in joining us, please complete the expression of interest document below and return to [lkennedy@mshc.org.au](mailto:lkennedy@mshc.org.au)  by **COB12th May 2023.** We will contact your practice to organise an interview before final selection.

**Background**

In 2019, the Victorian Department of Health released a review of state-wide sexual health services, recommending a decentralised approach to sexual health care (a ‘hub’ and ‘spoke’ model). MSHC acts as the specialist ‘hub’, providing education, support and mentorship to GP ‘spokes’ so that increased testing and treatment for sexually transmitted infections (STIs) can be provided. Eligible general practices will be in identified priority areas such as areas with high rates of STIs. The practice delivery model includes embedding practice nurses alongside GPs to support a sustainable model. MSHC has now partnered with six GP practices, this is known as the Victorian Sexual Health Network. Please visit [Stay STI Free](https://www.staystifree.org.au/where-can-i-be-tested/) and follow the links to the GP practices that make up the VSHN. Evaluation of the program has demonstrated an increase in STI testing and treatment and a high satisfaction of people attending these services.

MSHC is now offering the opportunity for your practice to join the Victorian Sexual Health Network.

**MSHC will provide the following to the successful clinic:**

* Commitment from MSHC to support the GP service through training from MSHC clinical educators and subsequent ongoing support. STI teaching is done through a series of virtual presentations covering all common STI syndromes and including PEP/PrEP and Mpox teaching.
* Practice staff (medical, nursing and administration) are invited to attend MSHC for training. Payment to the practice will be made to support staff time away from their place of work.
* Meetings with your Practice Manager and practice champions regularly during the on boarding process and then monthly once the VSHN practice has been launched. This development stage usually takes approximately 8 weeks.
* Access to real time clinical advice from a MSHC senior clinician via the MSHC GP Support phone line (Monday to Friday 9.00 -12.30 and 1.30- 5.00).
* Co-branding to demonstrate the partnership with MSHC and VSHN via MSHC and Stay STI free websites.
* Marketing and promotion of your practice as a network partner.

Participation in the Partnership will entail the following:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| ITEM | TIMELINE | DURATION |
| Weekly meetings with MSHC until services are launched | May – July 2023 | 1-2 hours per week |
| Medical Education | May – July 2023 | 8 hours |
| Nursing Education | May – July 2023 | 8 hours |
| Admin Education | May – July 2023 | 2 hours |
| Optional MSHC placement | May – December 2023 | 4 - 8 hours |
| $5000 payment will be provided to support on boarding and service launch | Upon completion of milestones | N/A |
| $750 payment will be provided for ACCESS instalment | Upon installation of data collection software |  |
| Co-branding with MSHC – website development | May – July 2023 | 4 hours (approx.) |
| Free marketing on Stay STI free website | Launch date onwards | N/A |
| Monthly Community of Practice meetings with VSHN Lead | Launch date onwards | 1 hour per month |
| Nurse Case studies | Launch date onwards | 1 hour per month |
| Medical Case studies | Launch date onwards | 1 hour per month |

**Eligibility criteria**

The practice must be:

* **Located in the following LGA’s – Hume, Whittlesea and Darebin**.
* Committed to an ongoing partnership with MSHC to deliver STI testing and management services over the long term.
* Accredited against RACGP Standards.
* Available to begin working with the MSHC from **May 2023**.
* Agree to enrol in the Australian Collaboration for Coordinated Enhanced Sentinel Surveillance of Sexually Transmitted Infection and Blood Borne Viruses (ACCESS) for data sharing purposes. ACCESS will provide de-identified STI and BBV’s data between your GP practice and MSHC. A $750 payment will be made to your practice if you accept to install ACCESS. Data evaluation will be provided to the Victorian Department of Health for KPI payments.
* Provide sufficient time for practice staff (GPs, nurses and reception) to undertake education and training provided by MSHC and key stakeholders. Education will be delivered via ZOOM and/or Microsoft teams, and GP, nursing and admin staff will have the opportunity to attend a clinical placement at MSHC.
* Provide onsite injectable treatment for gonorrhoea and syphilis and have a nominated partner pharmacy to supply antiretroviral therapies for HIV prevention (PEP and PrEP).
* Nominate a nurse, GP and administration team member as practice champions to maintain partnership commitments, with the Practice Manager as the key contact responsible for coordinating training. The Principal GP will actively promote and support the sexual health service in practice.
* Understand that if the training and reporting requirements are not being met the partnership may be discontinued.

**Key Contacts at MSHC**

Lisa Kennedy Operation Lead – Mobile: 0457 455 383 / [lkennedy@mshc.org.au](mailto:lkennedy@mshc.org.au)

Richard Teague Medical Operation Lead: [rteague@mshc.org.au](mailto:rteague@mshc.org.au)

Is your GP practice interested?

Please complete the Expression of Interest below and return via email to Lisa Kennedy at [lkennedy@mshc.org.au](mailto:lkennedy@mshc.org.au)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Date of Application |  |
| Name of practice |  |
| Practice address |  |
| Primary Contact |  |
| Number of General Practitioners  Total Number of GP sessions per week |  |
| Number of Registered Nurses  Total Number of Nurse sessions per week |  |
| Number of active registered patients |  |
| Days and hours of operation |  |
| Practice Manager details |  |
| Practice Principal details |  |
| Practice Champion Nurse(s) |  |
| Practice Champion GP(s) |  |
| Practice Champion Admin |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Check list** |  |
| Do you have a nominated Partner Pharmacy to supply injectable antibiotics and anti-retroviral treatment? |  |
| Does your practice hold a current accreditation against RACGP Standards? |  |
| Please list any clinical staff additional qualifications relevant to Sexual Health Training |  |
| Do you agree to collaborate with Burnet Institute and the Kirby Institute for data sharing with MSHC? This involves agreeing to participating with ACCESS, please see attached document.  This involves de-identified data sharing with MSHC and ACCESS |  |
| Do you have a Practice Manager to coordinate the partnership with MSHC? |  |
| Does your lead/Principal GP support the practice in the partnership with MSHC and Alfred Health and will they play an active role? |  |
| Do you agree to provide electronic patient surveys to ensure quality assurance? |  |
| Do you have a policy on patient feedback and quality control measures in relation to patient feedback and clinical errors? |  |
| Is your practice available to commit to the education and training requirements and regular Community of Practice meetings? |  |
| Briefly outline why your clinic would be interested in joining the Victorian Sexual Health Network: |  |