



## Message from the Chief Executive

Welcome to the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of Far West in Focus in 2022.

March has been marked by a number of key events for Far West. Firstly, our vICU, formerly eICU, collaborative partnership project with Sydney LHD commenced its preliminary implementation phase and is expected to be rolled out fully early April. It has created such excitement that we are expecting our Ministers for Health and Regional Health, Honourable Brad Hazzard and Bronwyn Taylor, in addition to our new Secretary of the Ministry of Health, and a former nurse from Far West, Ms Susan Pearce to the official launch. We are also well underway to finalising the initiation of the Tele-stroke partnership project with South East Sydney LHD which is expected to go live June 2022.



**Mr Umit Agis**

Our efforts with COVID-19 continues unabated with continual focus on public messaging on vaccination and testing. You will see that FW has one of the highest uptake of vaccination with booster rates equalling the state-wide average. However, we have fallen behind in the vaccination of our 5–11-year-old population but the team are committed to increasing effort to catching up with the rest of the state.

Last month we also took part in an invitation to host the Future Leaders Program in one of their development modules where the FW posed a number of key issues confronting the organisation and asked them to help us problem-solve. They will deliberate on these questions over the next year and I am hoping to present their ideas that we will consider adopting in our region. This is a great opportunity both for our emerging bright leaders in the state and for us as an LHD to have their combined knowledge and inquisitiveness focused on some of our more pressing issues.

We have also finalised our Annual Business plan for 22/23 which is designed to operationalise the recently Board-approved 5-year Strategic Plan. You will find it on our intranet and internet website.

Our hearts go to the victims of the ongoing flooding and our health colleagues who are both involved in and personally affected by it.

In closing, I want to thank you for your efforts and rest assured that we are exploring new ways to support you during what has been one of the longest health service responses to a pandemic.

**- Umit Agis, Chief Executive**



*I recently visited the Buronga HealthOne construction site for an update on the new facility. I and other Executive and staff met with Barpa Construction staff during the site tour and the project's progress is very impressive. You can find out all about the project at <https://bit.ly/377KNJD> including an incredible time-lapse video of the construction.*



## NSW nursing and midwifery awards to be live streamed — we have three finalists!

Make sure you tune into the 2021 NSW Excellence in Nursing & Midwifery Awards show which will be streamed as-live on Thursday 21 April, from 2-3pm EST.

After delaying the 2021 Awards due to COVID, it's time to start thinking about coming together to celebrate the deserving 26 finalists and find out who the winners are — especially as we have three finalists!

The Far West LHD finalists are:

- **Nurse of the Year – Samuel Bryant (formerly of Broken Hill Health Service)**
- **Aboriginal Nurse/Midwife of the Year – Dawn Evans (Formerly of Wilcannia Health Service).**
- **Healing Heart Award for exceptional care (Nursing/Midwifery) – nominated by colleagues: Timothy O'Neill (Workforce and Leadership, Far West Local Health District).**

Each of the finalists were the winners in the same category in the Far West LHD Excellence Awards held last year.

Jacqui Cross, Chief Nursing & Midwifery Officer NSW Health, said all the finalists (26 nurses and midwives) represent excellence across our Local Health Districts and Specialty Networks in metropolitan regional and rural communities.

"They are shining examples of the kind of dedicated professionals we have in NSW Health and I send them all my warmest congratulations.

She said the Awards are a wonderful opportunity for us to take a breath and pause to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of all our nurses and midwives, and their commitment to exceptional care for every person, every time.

Far West LHD extends its congratulations and all the best to all the finalists (especially ours) in the NSW Excellence Awards!

The 2021 Excellence in Nursing & Midwifery Awards will live stream at: [www.health.nsw.gov.au/nursing/enma](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/nursing/enma)

The show will be the first time anyone hears who the winners are, including the winners themselves!

## New Disaster Manager for LHD

The LHD has welcomed Marcus Wilson to the role of Acting Disaster Manager.

Marcus (pictured) comes to the LHD with a background in Defence, having served almost 14 years, mostly as a medic. He said the highlights of his time in the ADF were serving as a Peace Monitor in Bougainville in 1998 and being a foundation member of the Chemical, Biological and Radiological (CBR) Response Squadron for the 2000 Olympic Games. "The time I spent in this role has served me well in my post defence career also," he said.

He left the Army in 2002, and worked for the Queensland Ambulance Service in risk management between 2004-06, which involved sitting on the Whole-of-State Pandemic Planning Taskforce and designing/implementing a comprehensive PPE program for on road staff. From 2006-2017, he established and operated a medical services company in Kabul, Afghanistan, that served the staff of non-governmental organisations and the United Nations across the country. The services provided included fixed

and rotary wing aeromedical retrieval to domestic and international hospitals; emergency road ambulance retrieval; and occupational health screening.

"The writing was on the wall as they say as 2016-17 saw a worsening of the security situation across the

country. The risks very quickly outweighed the rewards and my wife and I left Kabul with essentially the clothes on our backs," he recalls.

Not long after arriving back home, he secured employment with the RFDS as the Broken Hill Base Manager until 2019. It was during this time his family moved out here and they fell in love with the lifestyle and people of the Far West.

"I am grateful for the opportunity to work with the FWLHD again and in an area I am particularly excited about. I hope to use the skills and experience I have gained to make a meaningful contribution to the LHD and improve/protect the communities we serve," he said.

Marcus can be contacted on 8080 2270 or by email [Marcus.Wilson@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Marcus.Wilson@health.nsw.gov.au)





# 2021 | NSW Public Sector Employee Survey

More information about the PMES report and Action Plan can be found at [People & Culture PMES intranet page](#).

### PMES Focused Update on SENIOR MANAGEMENT

**You said:** Senior Managers need to provide clear direction for the future of the organisation.  
**What we did:** The Chief Executive provided a presentation at the March Staff Forum on the priority area covered in the FWLHD 2021-2026 Strategic Plan.  
**What we did:** Monthly updates by the Chief Executive in the FWLHD In Focus newsletter and the Staff Forum.

### PMES Focused Update on SENIOR MANAGEMENT

**You said:** You are not confident in the way recruitment decisions are made.  
**What we did:** All managers/leaders who are responsible for recruitment are required to undertake relevant training in My Health Learning and follow the Policy for Recruitment and Selection of Staff to the NSW Health Service and the FWLHD Recruitment Procedures.

COLLABORATION | OPENNESS

# BRILLIANCE

Nominations

RESPECT | EMPOWERMENT



# CONGRATULATIONS

### Congratulations to the following staff for receiving a Brilliance Nomination in March 2022

Anne Cruickshank  
Ashley Hvass  
Barb Costello  
Ben Yassa  
Benjamin Kaye  
Caitlyn Fulham  
Christine Clifton  
Elise Pascoe  
Erin Jutronic  
Georgia Bartley  
Heather Miller  
Heather Renton  
Janet Daley  
Joe Worgan

Kahlia Hickey  
Laura Serwa  
Leanne Mak  
Margaret Kummerow  
Matt Sowden  
Michael Archontides  
Michelle Richards  
Morgan Walsh  
Paula Trealar  
Peta Collins  
Sarah McCormack  
Shannae Harvey  
Specialist Clinic  
- Administration Team

Specialist Clinic  
- Nursing Team  
Suzanne Liddell  
Tahlia Crampton  
Tanya Brown  
Tim Smart  
Tracey Gaiter  
Tracey Zieser  
Tracy Munro  
Vanessa Smith  
Wendy Roberts  
Yasmin Griffiths

### Expression of Interest called for BHHS WHS Committee

Expression of Interest is being called for staff keen on becoming a member of the Broken Hill Health Service WHS Committee.

We would like staff to be part of the committee to assist in identifying and resolving WHS issues and to develop and monitor safe systems and procedures.

The BHHS WHS committee is a useful way of establishing a permanent forum for communication between workers and management on health and safety issues.

If you are interested please [Tori.McManus@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Tori.McManus@health.nsw.gov.au) for a nomination form.

The Brilliance Nominations are a great way to share positive feedback with your peers for the great work they are doing. All Brilliance Nominations are logged in a register for the Annual FWLHD Health Staff Awards and then forwarded to the nominated staff member via email. **Scan the QR Code to nominate or go to [www.surveymonkey.com/r/JNQK8D5](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/JNQK8D5)**

## New CNEs at BHHS

The Nursing and Midwifery Directorate would like to welcome Samara Rogers and Anna Harriss to the roles of Clinical Nurse Educator at Broken Hill Health Service.



Anna Harriss (left) and Samara Rogers

Samara commenced in the role as Clinical Nurse Educator in February 2022 and Anna commenced in March 2022.

Prior to this position, Samara was a Senior Registered Nurse in the Intensive Care Unit and has worked at the BHHS for the past four years in ED and ICU. Anna was working as a FLECC Registered Nurse in Northern NSW, has been nursing for 42 years and has experience in Emergency, Aged Care, Education, Medical, Palliative Care, Telehealth, HITH and Rural and Remote Nursing, with the past decade focused on rural and remote nursing.

Samara and Anna both bring a wealth of clinical and rural health care experience and they look forward to working with staff and patients in their new roles.

They can be found out and about on the wards at BHHS or in the CNE office and can be contacted via email on [Samara.Rogers@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Samara.Rogers@health.nsw.gov.au) and [Anna.Harriss@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Anna.Harriss@health.nsw.gov.au) or by calling (08) 8080 1417.

## WHS Promotion

Every month the BHHS WHS committee strives to bring you relevant information on safety practices in the workplace. March's WHS promotion focuses on FLU information.

### FLU Information

Vaccination is the most effective way to protect against infectious diseases. Vaccines strengthen your immune system by training it to recognise and fight against specific viruses. When you get vaccinated, you are protecting yourself and helping to protect the whole community. When enough people in the community are vaccinated, it slows down the spread of disease. Achieving herd immunity is a long-term goal.

If you would like more information, schedule a vaccination or discuss FLU vaccinations with an Accredited Nurse Immuniser please contact Donna Gers, Staff Health Officer on extension 1219 or via email: [DonnaLynne.Gers@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:DonnaLynne.Gers@health.nsw.gov.au)



## Far West Kids in Focus

### New sleep screening service coming for young patients

Broken Hill Health Service will soon offer a screening service for children and young people who are suspected of having sleep disturbance due to breathing difficulties.

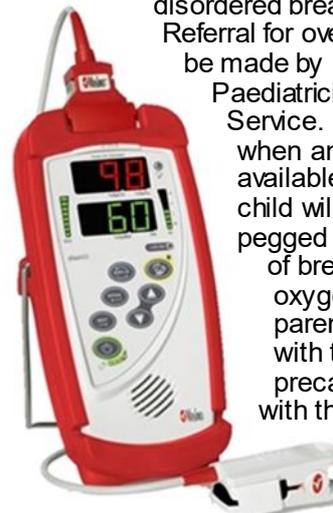
For premature babies, this may be due to pauses in breathing (apnoea) that occur because the brain is immature and still developing. In young children, large tonsils and adenoids may cause obstruction in the airway so that the child has to rouse from sleep to get a full breath in. Other children may experience sleep apnoea because of genetic conditions that cause muscle weakness or airway limitations.

When apnoea occurs multiple times each night and for prolonged periods, the child has poor quality sleep resulting in daytime sleepiness that affects growth, quality of life, and learning potential. Early identification of sleep-disordered breathing allows for referral to a specialist team who can treat or manage the cause.

Being able to conduct overnight oximetry recordings in Broken Hill will mean that the child's referral to a specialist will be accompanied by evidence of the condition's impact. Referral may be made to an Ear, Nose and Throat Surgeon if obstruction is identified, or to a Sleep Specialist if a formal sleep study (Polysomnography) is needed. The specialist will then be able to determine more accurately when the child needs to be seen.

Tertiary Sleep Units around Australia have experienced closure due to the COVID-19 pandemic, so their waitlists are now extensive. Children in the FWLHD who need a tonsillectomy/adenoidectomy have been waiting for surgery because of the pandemic disruption and long waitlists. This new screening service will help to identify those children who require the earliest intervention for the most serious impacts of sleep-disordered breathing, expediting their care.

Referral for overnight oximetry recording can be made by General Practitioners to the Paediatrician at the Broken Hill Health Service. Parents will then be contacted when an overnight admission is available. During the admission, the child will sleep with a small probe pegged to a finger so that a recording of breathing, heart rate, and oxygen levels is obtained. A parent is welcome to room-in with the child. COVID-19 precautions will continue in line with the current NSW Health advice.



Overnight Oximeter used to obtain the sleep data.

## Security Improvement Audit is coming!

The Security Improvement Audit drives continuous improvements in security risk management performance through the assessment of compliance with the NSW Health security standards set out in Protecting People and Property: NSW Health Policy and Standards for Security Risk Management in NSW Health Agencies (Security Manual).

**Who will be audited?** The audit is about protecting you, the patients and the health system from harm. All facilities will be audited and all staff need to be involved and support. Make sure you are aware of the Audit tool and are able to answer key questions.

**When is it occurring?** The Security Audit will be occurring in the second half of 2022 in Far West LHD. The schedule will be announced in October to December 2022.

The audit is very similar to the Work Health and Safety Audit, but with a security focus. There are 30 sections in the Security audit and each section is based on risk

assessments being undertaken; risks eliminated or remediated action plans being developed and implemented, then monitoring and evaluating the action plans to assess their outcomes on the risk identified.

Security risk assessment areas can include many departments please see the following link to ensure you have assessed your area: <http://fwlhd.gwahs.nswhealth.net/WorkHealthandSafety/SecurityRiskAssessments.php>

**Ask yourself:** Have you consulted and discussed with the staff involved? Consulted and discussed with the local Work Health & Safety Committee and discussed at the team meetings? If the risk is unable to be remediated have you entered it on the CAMMS Risk Register?

**Folders have been set up for facilities to compile their evidence of compliance** at N:\Team\Broken Hill\common\Security Audit 21-22\Security Improvement AUDIT TOOL folders All Facilities.

### Vale — Mrs Pam Lord

The Far West Local Health District has paid tribute to a hospital volunteer with over 50 years of service who passed away on Friday, 11 March 2022 – Mrs Pam Lord.

Mrs Lord was a RFDS Broken Hill Women's Auxiliary Hospital Visitor for over 50 years. She would drive in from her home at Thackaringa Station (about 35kms on Adelaide Road) on a weekly basis, coming into the hospital to visit inpatients, delivering magazines, providing companionship and doing errands for them, including those who were from rural stations. She withdrew from the role in 2019 to spend more time with her husband.



In recognition of her many years of volunteering at the hospital, and on her 50th anniversary in 2015 of being a Hospital Visitor, the health service established the Far West LHD & Pamela Lord Volunteer of the Year Award. The award has been presented each year since then.

Far West LHD is extremely grateful for Mrs Lord's contribution and dedication in her role as a hospital visitor. She will always be remembered as an iconic volunteer and for her many years of volunteering at Broken Hill Hospital.

On behalf of Far West LHD and staff at Broken Hill Hospital, we express our sincere condolences to her husband John and all her family on her passing.

### Vale — Mr Tom Hynes

The Far West LHD expresses its condolences to the family of Mr Tom Hynes, a former Member and Chair of the Far West LHD Board. He passed away 3 March 2022, aged 72.

Mr Hynes was a Board Member from January 2011 to 31 December 2012, and was appointed the Chair on 1 January 2013 — a role held until 31 May 2017.

He was also part of the then-called Audit and Management Committee when he was a Board Member.

The Far West LHD acknowledges the contributions made by Mr Hynes during his tenure on the Board.

## Security Awareness

**Security Awareness – All Staff** will be a state-wide mandatory requirement for **all** NSW Health Staff (in LHDs, SNs and Health Agencies/Organisations), contractors and students undertaking placements in NSW Health facilities as of **1 April 2022**.

**Have you completed the following My Health Learning Online Course?**

- Security Awareness - Course Code: 194502198 - For All Staff.

Are you aware of the **Protecting People and Property - NSW Health Policy and Standards for Security Risk Management in NSW Health Agencies?**

The Protecting People and Property Manual outlines NSW Health policy on key aspects of personal and property security that assist NSW Health Agencies to maintain an effective security program that is based on a structured, on-going risk management process, consultation, appropriate documentation and record keeping and regular monitoring and evaluation.



# AMBER care bundle Go Live 19 April 2022

The AMBER care bundle is a systematic approach for the multidisciplinary team to follow when clinicians are uncertain whether a patient may recover. These patients will be acutely unwell but have limited reversibility due to underlying poor health.

It encourages clinicians, patients and families to continue treatment, in the hope of a recovery, whilst talking openly about preferences and wishes, and putting plans in place in preparing for end of life.

It is NOT a last days of life plan.

## Recognising clinical uncertainty

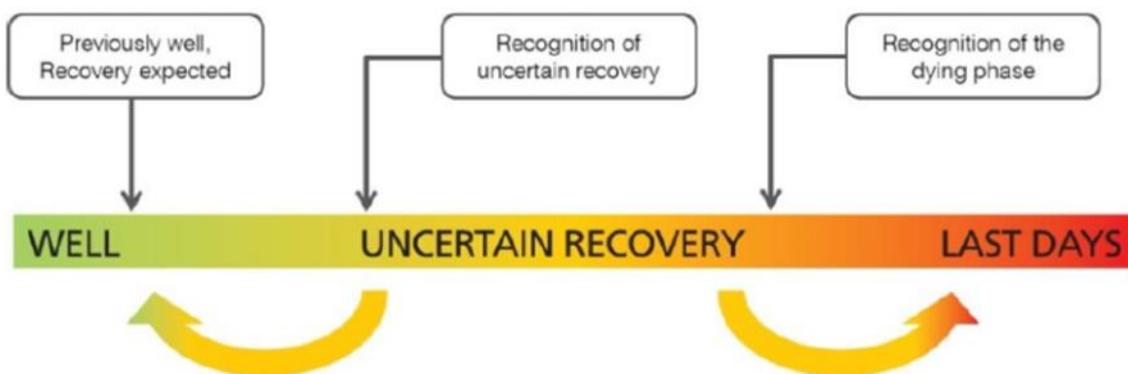
1. Is the patient rapidly deteriorating, clinically unstable and with limited reversibility? AND

2. Is the patient at risk of dying during this episode of care despite treatment?

If the multidisciplinary team agree the answer is “yes” to both then proceed to support care using the **AMBER care bundle**.

**A**SSessment  
**M**ANAGEMENT  
**B**EST PRACTICE  
**E**NGAGEMENT  
**R**ECOVERY UNCERTAIN

## Patients whose recovery is uncertain



The AMBER care bundle can be completed in eMR

- Within 12 hours, a conversation with the patient and relatives takes place and documented.
- Within 12 hours of activating the AMBER care bundle, a current medical plan and escalation decision is documented and discussed with the multidisciplinary team.

• Each day, members of the multidisciplinary team are prompted to

ACT:

A – Is the patient still AMBER

C – Are there any medical Changes

T – Have you Talked with the patient and/or their carer?

### Local Contact:

Name: Katherine Scanlon

Title: Essentials of Care Coordinator

Email: Katherine.Scanlon@health.nsw.gov.au

Phone: 0437 673 667

### Key Message

The AMBER care bundle supports best practice when caring for patients whose recovery is uncertain.

## AMBER = ACTION

- Have you talked to the patient and those important to them daily?
- Have you clearly documented all your interventions in the patient's healthcare record?
- Have you involved the full multidisciplinary team in management planning?



### Meet Meg Austin, midwife in Broken Hill and 2022 R.M. Williams RAS Rural Achiever

Meg Austin has just completed her new graduate year as a registered midwife in Broken Hill, NSW. She is extremely passionate about her role as a supporter and protector of the women and babies in her care. She tells us about her journey to becoming a midwife, and how she's ended up as a finalist in the R.M. Williams RAS Rural Achiever Award.

By Erin McDonald | March 18, 2022 | 4 minute read



## Midwife Meg a finalist for rural achiever award

Local midwife Meg Austin has just finished her new graduate midwifery year in Broken Hill and is a finalist in the R.M. Williams RAS Rural Achiever Award.

You can read about the Award here [Meet Meg Austin, midwife in Broken Hill and 2022 R.M. Williams RAS Rural Achiever | Rural Health Pro](#)

The Award is a state-wide leadership program run by the Royal Agricultural Society (RAS) of NSW to recognise future young leaders who are working hard to make a significant contribution to their community and to rural Australia. The award winner will be announced at the Sydney Royal Easter Show.

We wish all the best to Meg in the Awards!

## Incident Reporting – ims+

When staff report incidents, they are directly contributing to potentially preventing a future incident from happening again. Incident reporting allows the organisation to investigate and establish checks, procedures and implement risk controls in response to what has happened in the work environment.

All staff are responsible for identifying incidents. Most incidents are identified at the time and a few are identified sometime after the event. They are identified via different sources, such as direct observation, team discussions, audits, a work place event/incident, and complaints.

Staff must notify all clinical and corporate incidents, near misses and complaints in, ims+. Clinical incidents relate to patient care. Corporate incidents can relate to people (e.g. worker slips, trips and falls) or environmental

hazards (e.g. faulty lock).

- Notify the incident in ims+ on the **same day** or as soon as practicable
- Log into ims+ to notify, as this

supports conversations with notifiers and managers.

- Respond to key questions about outcome and additional care or resources needed for ims+ to automatically calculate an incident rating (ims+ Harm Score)

- Document contemporaneously in the medical record with:
  - o Incident number and clinically relevant information for clinical incidents
  - o Incident number only for complaints

Staff must take any immediate action needed to ensure safety.

This may include:

- Providing immediate care to the patients, visitors or staff involved
- Making the environment safe to prevent immediate recurrence
- Preserving the scene for regulators (e.g. SafeWork NSW, NSW



Environmental Protection Authority), the Coroner or NSW Police, if safe to do so

- Removing faulty equipment or supplies, if safe to do so; isolate and keep intact for biomedical engineering or the manufacturer
- Notifying security or police if required
- Support to patients, carers and families as needed
- Support to staff as needed e.g. Employee Assistance Program (EAP)
- Any other immediate actions as identified.

Please ensure that all incidents are logged in ims+ to ensure safety for all.

Far West Local Health District's Project Management Office

**FWLHD PMO News Corner**

Welcome back to the FWLHD PMO News Corner! Last month we talked about some of the changes happening in the Project Management Office. Here is an update:

**PMO Team:**

In addition to Chelsea Edwards commencing in the PMO Manager role, the PMO Projects Coordinator role has been recruited. Timonthy Symonds will commence in the role at the end of March. Keep an eye out for a staff profile introducing Tim in next months FWiF.

**FWLHD Ideas Portal:**

The PMO launched the 'FWLHD Ideas Portal' in February 2022 and so far over 10 amazing ideas have been sent by staff.

The Ideas Portal is an easy, online survey designed for all staff to pitch their ideas for change. The change might be for service improvement, for better patient and/or staff experiences, or for any burning project proposals staff might have. Once you submit your idea, someone from the PMO will give you a call!



Simply use this QR to tell us your great ideas!

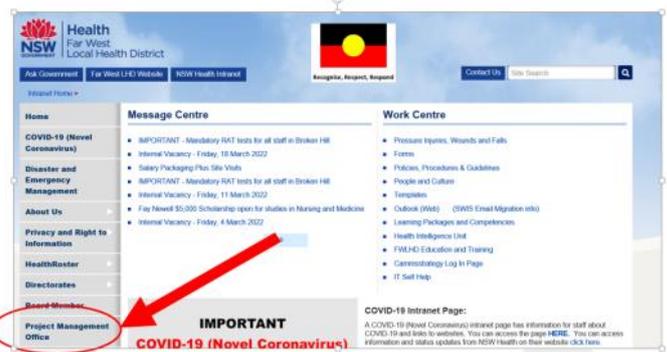
**Community of Practice:**

The PMO are supporting Project Officers around the District to develop a Community of Practice. This Community of Practice is for anyone in a role who manages change or manages projects (even if you're not in a designated Project Officer role). If you would like to join

the Community of Practice, contact the PMO on the details below.

**FWLHD Intranet:**

One of our aims to make the Project Management Process at Far West as consistent and as user-friendly as possible. We recently moved the Project Management Office Intranet Page to an easily accessible spot where you can find information and templates. We might make some changes to this page but for now, hoping it makes information more accessible.



**Future projects:**

As some of the prior year Strategic Projects finish and new Strategic Projects commence with the roll out of the 2021-2026 Strategic Plans occurs, we look forward to working with project sponsors and staff on these projects.

If you would like to get in contact with the PMO, call 08 8080 1549 or

[FWLHD-ProjectManagementOffice@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:FWLHD-ProjectManagementOffice@health.nsw.gov.au)

**What is Security Risk Assessment?**

Security risk assessment is the process of determining how likely it is that someone could be harmed or property damaged/ stolen and how serious the consequences might be.

**Factors to consider in assessing security risks:**

- Extent of exposure to the hazard (frequency and duration).
- Severity of potential injury/illness or loss associated with the risk.
- Likelihood of injury/illness/loss/damage occurring.
- Number of people/amount of property at risk.
- Existing control strategies.
- Standards set in policy (Protecting People and Property):

NSW Health Policy and Standards for Security Risk Management in NSW Health Agencies. Security Risk Management.

The Protecting People and Property Manual outlines NSW Health policy on key aspects of personal and property security

that assist NSW Health Agencies to maintain an effective security program that is based on a structured, on-going risk management process, consultation, appropriate documentation and record keeping and regular monitoring and evaluation.

Please read : <https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/policies/manuals/Pages/protecting-people-property.aspx>

**The process of assessment involves:**

- Consulting with staff and their representatives.
- Examining the experience of the workplace or other similar workplaces including review of incident data and near misses and other information such as prosecution decisions.
- Reviewing relevant guidance material, industry codes of practice, Australian Standards, and NSW Health policies and guidelines.

Security risk assessment areas can include many departments please see the following link to ensure you have assessed your area: <http://fwlhd.gwahs.nswhealth.net/WorkHealthandSafety/SecurityRiskAssessments.php>

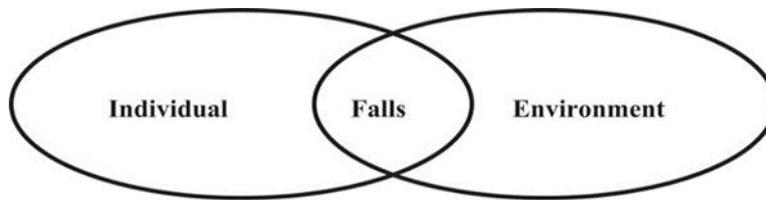
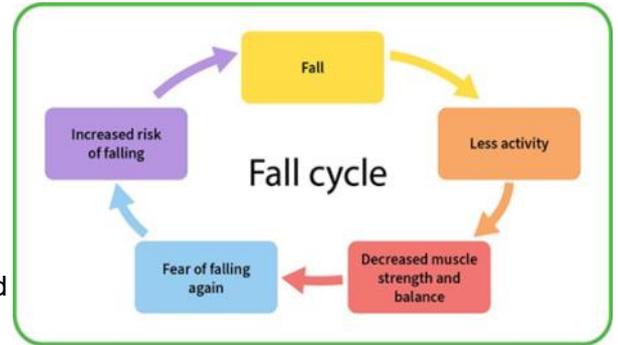
# Aged Care Corner...

## Falls Prevention

Falls can occur at all ages, the frequency and severity of falls-related injuries increases significantly with age. Falls are the leading cause of unintentional injury in older Australians. As our population ages and the number of older people grows, the likelihood of more falls and fall-related hospitalisations increases. Each year, approximately 30% to 40% of people aged 65 years and older who live in the community fall. Roughly half of all falls result in an injury, of which 10% are serious, and injury rates increase with age.

Falls are a major threat to older adults' quality of life, often causing a decline in self-care ability and participation in physical and social activities. Fear of falling, which develops in 20% to 39% of people who fall, can lead to further limiting activity, independent of injury.

Fall risk factors increase the likelihood that a person will fall, see image below.



- Age-related changes
- Cognitive deficits
- Gait, strength, or balance deficits<sup>a</sup>
- Sensory deficits<sup>a</sup>
- Chronic conditions
- Acute illnesses
- Behaviors/choices<sup>a</sup>

- Medications<sup>a</sup>
- Footwear<sup>a</sup>
- Assistive devices<sup>a</sup>
- Home/neighborhood features<sup>a</sup>
- Alcohol/drugs<sup>a</sup>
- Supports from caregivers<sup>a</sup>

A risk assessment consists of a falls history, medication review, physical examination, cognitive screening and functional and environmental assessments. The critical issue is that the result of screening or assessing is recorded and acted upon.

**Falls are common and have adverse consequences, but are often preventable.**



Preventive programmes based on risk factors for falling include exercise programmes, education programmes, medication review, environmental modification and nutritional or hormonal supplementation.

Older people are often not receptive to 'falls prevention' as they underestimate their falls risk and don't see themselves as 'fallers'. Make sure the falls prevention message is presented within the context of people staying independent for longer.

For more information: <https://www.cec.health.nsw.gov.au/keep-patients-safe/older-persons-patient-safety-program/falls-prevention>



My Health Learning: Falls Prevention and Falls Risk Management for Clinical Staff No 40063943

**Have you ever said to yourself, "If they just changed this and did it this way, it would be much better"?**

**Well, now you have a quick and easy way to suggest your ideas!**

Scan the QR code or go to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WBHNSHZ> if you have ideas for change; for service improvement, better patient and staff experiences, or any burning project proposals you might have. We want to make sure that any of our staff with ideas for projects, innovations or change have a platform to submit their ideas and have a chance to talk about them.

The Project Management Office (PMO), located at the CHC in Broken Hill, will receive your ideas through the portal and explore opportunities to convert these into projects.





## Policy Watch — PDs available on MOH internet

The following documents have been published on the NSW Ministry of Health internet site <http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/policies>. These documents are official NSW Health policy. Compliance with Policy Directives is **mandatory**.

Title	Document Number	Date Issued
<a href="#">Pension Based Scale of Fees</a>	IB2022_006	21/03/2022
<a href="#">NSW LGBTIQ+ Health Strategy 2022 - 2027</a>	IB2022_005	16/03/2022
<a href="#">State-wide Protocol for the Supply or Administration of COVID-19 Vaccine</a>	PD2022_009	17/03/2022
<a href="#">Notifying Cancer-Related Data to the NSW Cancer Registry</a>	PD2022_008	11/03/2022
<a href="#">Leave Matters for the NSW Health Service</a>	PD2022_006	09/03/2022
<a href="#">Principles for the Management of Tuberculosis in New South Wales</a>	PD2022_007	08/03/2022
<a href="#">Plaque Protocol</a>	GL2022_001	28/02/2022

### Fay Newell Scholarship applications open until 6 April 2022

The Fay Newell Scholarship is an annual award of \$5000 funded through a generous gift provided to the Broken Hill Hospital by the late Fay Newell.

The scholarship is awarded to encourage excellence in the education and training of students in any of the following areas:

- The practice or study of medicine as a Doctor of Medicine or a speciality in Medicine
- Nursing, with the essential qualifications to excel in Emergency Care and/or terminal care
- Aged care services
- A student with the qualification and special attributes to specialise as a Doctor or Nursing Specialist to care for newly born infants and their mothers and fathers, care of toddlers, children and young adults.

To be eligible for the scholarship, applicants must be undertaking studies in one of the areas as listed above, and must reside and work in Broken Hill.

For more information, or to apply for an application form, contact [Jane.Baker@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Jane.Baker@health.nsw.gov.au) or [Brooke.Napier@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Brooke.Napier@health.nsw.gov.au)

Applications will be reviewed by a committee comprising of a representative from the Broken Hill Hospital, Broken Hill Council and Broken Hill GP Super Clinic. The successful applicant will be awarded a scholarship to the value of \$5000.

**Applications Close Wednesday 6 April 2022.**

### Japanese Encephalitis Masterclass

Do you want to learn more about Japanese encephalitis?

Following the recent outbreak in Australia, the Encephalitis Society has organised a free Japanese Encephalitis Masterclass on Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> April at 8pm (New South Wales, Victoria)

This live masterclass is aimed at healthcare professionals of all levels, including medical students, neurologists, epidemiologists, infectious disease specialists, emergency practitioners and nurses who want to discover more about the condition.

Areas which will be covered include:

- Epidemiology of Japanese encephalitis
  - Vaccination and prevention of Japanese encephalitis
  - Managing adult patients affected by Japanese encephalitis
  - Managing paediatric patients affected by Japanese encephalitis
  - Patient outcomes and quality of life
  - Latest developments on recent outbreak in Australia
- There will also be a Q&A with each speaker.

Please note: A recording of the Japanese Encephalitis Masterclass will be made available following the live webinar for those who register. Book your free place:

[www.bit.ly/JEVmasterclass](http://www.bit.ly/JEVmasterclass)