

PracSavvy

Clinical Systems Support and Training

www.pracsavvy.com.au

Edition 83 - July 2023

Welcome to the month's newsletter. From my point of view it's been a pretty slow news month, so this time around will be a brief edition. Next month I should be able to talk about the BP Orchid SP1 release including (spoiler alert) the fact that practices will now be able to upload Advance Care Directives to the MyHR and more fully utilise the [Active Script List](#).

I'm pretty sure I'm not letting the cat out of the bag** too much by mentioning that Primary Health (PHT) and PenCat have concluded their discussions and settled on the fact that practices will not have access to a PHT funded PenCat after the 30th of September. ***Cat out of the bag is a metaphor dating back to the previous century. No animals were harmed by it's use and there is no intention to trigger anyone who identifies as a cat!*

So given that when you log into PenCat it checks your licence information, if you haven't paid for your own version, the login won't work after September 30th. If you are a frequent user of the tool for data quality purposes, you may want to think of running some reports in late September and printing them or exporting the data to Excel. It wouldn't be the worst thing to have some *point in time* reports that you could access going forward especially if you want to substantiate QI progress. As I mentioned in last month's [excellent review](#), ☺ being able to return to a previous point in time is not really a thing in Primary Sense.

The other thing that happens on September 30th is that this is the last day you will be able to use funded sms escripts if you have stayed with [Medisecure](#). After this point only practices using [ERX](#) will have free SMS escripts. This was mentioned in the last newsletter with a slight email clarification the next day. (Sometimes you pay for wanting to be the first with the news) There is a fact sheet [here](#) if further information is required.

Speaking of things coming to an end, the [My Aged Care](#) agency has announced that it won't be accepting faxed referrals after the end of July. This shouldn't be a problem for General Practices as many will have already found the referral available via [Healthlink Smartforms](#).

On that subject, is it a sign of some pretty self-absorbed times that "My" is being stuck on the front of so many things? Without trying you've got My Aged Care, My Health Record, My Medicare, My Bank, My State, MyGov, MyPost, MySchool, MySkills, Myer. My, the [guys that started all this](#) have a lot to answer for.

Templates

Templates updated or created last month at my website [here](#):

Alcohol and Drug Service Intake (Updated template to 2019 THS form)

At the [Primary Health Tasmania website](#):

The Hobart Clinic Referral form (Template)

e-referral

Please see below for some e-referral updates for your address books. My listing of e-referral enabled specialists and Allied Health providers can be found [here](#):

Dr William Martin	Cardiology	lgallign	Hobart Heart Centre
Dr Josh Hawson	Cardiology	lgallign	Hobart Heart Centre
Dr Sue Keating	Gynaecology & Obstetrics	hobpaedg	Hobart Paediatric Group Delete
Dr Emily Cripps	Paediatric Medicine	hobpaedg	Hobart Paediatric Group Delete
Dr Jason Westwater	Psychiatry	hobpaedg	Hobart Paediatric Group Delete
Dr David Russell	Cardiology	hcardiol	Hobart Cardio and Medical Delete
Dr Stuart Healey	Electrophysiology	hcardiol	Hobart Cardio and Medical Delete
Dr Gaurie Palnitkar	Respiratory & Sleep Med	hcardiol	Hobart Cardio and Medical Delete
Dr Emma Mitchell	Rheumatology	hcardiol	Hobart Cardio and Medical Delete
Dr Sally Abell	Endocrinology	hcardiol	Hobart Cardio and Medical Delete
Dr Sally Abell	Endocrinology	hbartent	Hobart ENT and Endocrine
Dr David Merry	Ear Nose and Throat	hbartent	Hobart ENT and Endocrine Delete

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BP

I've thought for quite a while that General Practice has pretty good software compared to other areas, with BP being the choice offering. I praise the product a lot, but I'm a little annoyed that they have introduced good features that have "broke" at some point, and there doesn't seem to be a lot of effort to fix them. So, because it's been a slow news month, here are the broken or badly implemented things that annoy me about BP.

My Health Record

In BP, you have to be a clinician with a HPI-I number to access a patient's MyHR. This doesn't reflect the rules of the system, which in a nutshell, say that an Organisation can allow its non-clinical staff access if they deem that it's necessary for their job. Administrative access to MyHR was handy for non BP users during the pandemic, especially before direct access to AIR was enabled. It would be great if after a decade of being wrong our market leading GP software could access our national Health Record system in accordance with its intention.



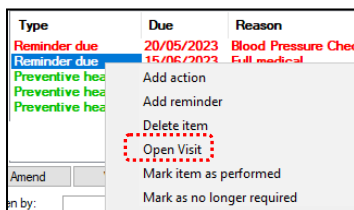
Very cool functionality when it was added over a year ago, and even though only a few practices enabled it, the ones that did found it very useful. Then several months ago, the connection stopped working. There is no timeline for a fix at this point with the latest information seeming to convey that BP and Telstra (NCSR) are pointing at each other.

Notifications:

Type	Due	Reason
Reminder due	20/05/2023	Blood Pressure Check
Preventive health	07/07/2023	There is no record of any cervical screening for this patient!
Preventive health	07/07/2023	Influenza vaccination should be considered!
Preventive health	07/07/2023	Vaccination against shingles should be considered!
Preventive health	07/07/2023	A smoking history should be recorded!
Preventive health	07/07/2023	There is no record of any cervical screening for this patient!

The notifications area in the patient record is a spot I encourage clinicians to keep an eye on, particularly as it will often contain reminders that need to be "marked as performed".

The area is shared with the green software generated prevention prompts, which is fine apart from when there are more than five lines of information, something you frequently see in the records of older patients. As you can see, the sixth line onwards does not render on the screen correctly, with the user needing to click on the line for it to be displayed fully and also potentially reveal any further lines which may often be the fore-mentioned reminders. This issue has been in evidence for at least three years by my estimation.



On the subject of reminders, a couple of years ago BP introduced an enhancement whereby you could right-click on a reminder and via the generated menu you could be taken to the visit notes for the day the reminder was created. Then an update was released and the option stopped working, taking the user to a blank visit notes page. It has never been fixed.

The Obstetrics Tab in BP helpfully gives you the ability to record previous pregnancies and their outcomes. You can even record the Dr that managed the pregnancy, in fact it doesn't let you save the record until you select the Dr. The thing is that there is no "Other Dr" option, it just gives a list of the Drs in your database. So if the pregnancy was managed by a Dr not at your practice, you can't save the entry. I don't know whether this was always the case or whether it is an issue that has manifested in recent times.



It really is great that electronic messaging is well integrated into BP, and that sending a document via Healthlink is as easy as clicking on the icon. Once you do this a copy of the document is placed in the Healthlink "out" folder. What isn't great is that the system allows you to do this, even if the addressee isn't set up as a Healthlink recipient, only for the document to appear as an error in the referrals screen. It would save a whole bunch of admin work if the sender could be stopped in their tracks when clicking this if the addressee doesn't have a Healthlink address.