

PracSavvy

Clinical Systems Support and Training

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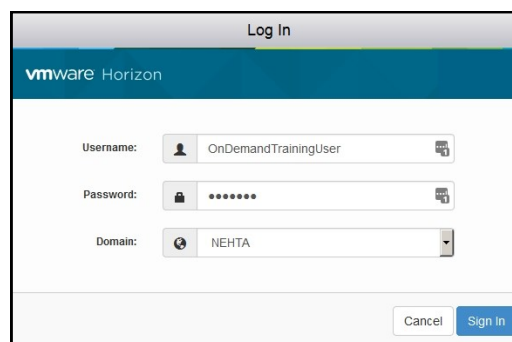
August 2017 — Newsbrief

MyHR

With practices finding different ways to come to grips with the MyHR and their ePIP targets, it's worth pointing out again, that there is plenty of help available online.

The following page on my website, www.pracsavvy.com.au/myhr.html has quick links to several good resource collections, including material from RACGP, AAPM and the Digital Health Agency.

Whilst I am a big believer in the "biological aspect" of training, (I may be biased!), there are also facilities to do some online training which simulate the software packages that you use.



The whole thing is a little "clunkier" than you would ideally like, but once inside the program, your clinical staff will be using the software that they are used to. So between on-site assistance, instruction sheets and software simulations, there is plenty of assistance available.

PenCat

The beginning of August saw a minor PenCat update with the only thing of note being the addition of an *Indicated Osteoporosis with no Diagnosis* table, under the *Data Cleansing* tab.

Certainly these tables under Data Cleansing, give us an excellent way to identify patients who's histories **may** need to be amended with an updated or coded diagnosis. Always remember that a patient may have received treatment for e.g. Diabetes, for years, but unless their history reflects a formal diagnosis of this, the system will not regard them as such. As a consequence of this, inbuilt software checks that compare a patient's current medications and illnesses, will be compromised.

Additionally future government initiatives e.g. [Health Care Homes](#), are likely to allocate funding at least partly based on the practice chronic disease registers. So there are a variety of reasons, both clinical and financial, for these registers to be as complete as possible.

Also never forget that any quality improvements that you make in this area can be documented and used as a "gimme" for the **Quality Improvement** module that is part of the upcoming 5th version [Accreditation standards](#).

Templates

The following new templates were created during July:

- ◆ Diabetes Type 2 Sick Leave Action Plan
- ◆ Early Childhood Intervention Service (ECIS) Referral

Available in either MD or BP format, they are available at my website [here](#):

Please let me know if you need any others created, or need assistance importing them.

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MD

Medical Director have just made it's 3.17.1 release available publically in the last week. Whilst it appears to be more of a minor bug-fix release for the immunisations module in particular, there are a couple of items of interest:

- ◆ The Spell Checker and Thesaurus that were previously disabled because of incompatibilities with recent versions of Microsoft Windows have now been enabled. This is definitely worth mentioning to your GPs.
- ◆ There is now a tick-box in the smoking area of the record to flag if cessation has been discussed with the patient.
- ◆ The options given to GPs prompted by Drug Interaction checks have been made clearer
- ◆ The practice fax number is now included on Investigation request forms.
- ◆ The *MD Insights* utility has been upgraded to version 1.4.

The last item on the list may be unfamiliar to some. MD Insights is an audit/search tool that has been included with Medical Director releases since early 2016. Whilst I haven't used it with a full size database, I would initially describe it as a possibly more customisable but less user-friendly alternative to the PenCat tool. If PenCat wasn't available to practices, this tool would be the next choice for MD users.

Look for a more detailed review in a future newsletter, or if you can't wait until them, there is help documentation [here](#).

BP

Best Practice released it's Lava Service Pack 1 upgrade this week.

A quick glance around the state shows that only about 60% of Best Practice running practices have installed the LAVA upgrade, despite the fact that it's been available (albeit quietly in the beginning) since the last quarter of 2016. It's good thinking for practices to hold-off on major software upgrades, and certainly the LAVA upgrade came with it's fair share of issues, although the dust seems to be settling a little now though.

Certainly the main aim of LAVA was to simplify the scenario of group practices sharing a common database across multiple locations, often with individual GPs working at more than one of those locations. This was a really ambitious and worthwhile goal, which had it been delivered flawlessly would have made life much easier for group practices.

There were however "issues" and ironically the large group practices that stood to benefit the most from the enhancements also had the most to lose if things didn't go smoothly, and were therefore the most reticent. Whilst this caution is totally understandable, I am certainly looking forward to practices experiencing some of LAVA's enhancements, including

- ◆ An ereferrals confirmation screen
- ◆ Enhanced and updated MyHR functionality
- ◆ Healthshare Factsheets access
- ◆ Enhanced filters on Pathology follow-up screen
- ◆ National Inpatient Medication Chart

This Service Pack release will hopefully further settle the situation, and encourage some more practices to upgrade. Having said that, this release has a few "known issues" of it's own that can be read about [here](#).

If you want to read the detail on what is fixed as well as information on enhancements, there is information at the Best Practice site [here](#).

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Medicare Training

I usually concern myself with clinical and audit software, but I came across some online training resources lately that may be of interest to practice staff in particular. The site is medicareaust.com/eLearningGateway/Gateway/index.html. It strikes me that some of these modules may be particularly useful to staff who are brand new to working in the health sector.

The worst of it is a long-winded, circuitous menu system that often leads you back to where you started, and even when you go straight to the right spot, takes far more screens than it should.

If you get through the navigation though, there are a host of brief interactive tutorials around the different ways practices and clinicians interact with Medicare.



I found a good way to navigate through the menus, was to Select *Health Professional Groups* and then *Practice Staff*. From this point you can pick your subject menu category.

Rather than putting people through the pain of meandering through the menu maze, I have listed below the various topics and the headings they can be found under. I've laid it out as a check list, in case anyone would like an easy way of keeping track of what they have done.

Topic	Min	Topic	Min
Medicare for Health Professionals	75	Chronic Disease Management for GPs	85
<input type="checkbox"/> Introduction to Medicare	10	<input type="checkbox"/> GP Management Plans (GPMP)	30
<input type="checkbox"/> Introduction to Medical Benefits Schedule (MBS)	10	<input type="checkbox"/> Team Care Arrangements	40
<input type="checkbox"/> Billing and Claiming	25	<input type="checkbox"/> Allied Health Initiative for GPs	15
<input type="checkbox"/> Referrals and Requests	10	MBS Primary Care Items	55
<input type="checkbox"/> Secure upload of HPOS Forms	?	<input type="checkbox"/> Attendance Basics	25
<input type="checkbox"/> Family and Domestic Violence	5	<input type="checkbox"/> Targeted Primary Care Items	20
<input type="checkbox"/> Test your Knowledge	15	<input type="checkbox"/> Assessment	10
Doing Business with Medicare Electronically	80	Treatment for Skin Lesions	35
<input type="checkbox"/> Introduction to Electronic claiming and HPOS	20	<input type="checkbox"/> Consultation Items and treatment of Lesions	10
<input type="checkbox"/> Electronic Medicare Claiming Channels	25	<input type="checkbox"/> Lesion excision and local skin flap repair	10
<input type="checkbox"/> PIP and eHealth Incentive	20	<input type="checkbox"/> Treatment of lesions other than excisions	15
<input type="checkbox"/> PRODA	15	Australian Immunisation Register	10
		Indigenous Health Services	1'45