

PracSavvy

Clinical Systems Support and Training

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September 2017 — Newsbrief

eReferral

Here are the latest updates additions and changes to the published list of [e-referrable specialists](#).

New

Mr John Mills	Orthopaedic Surgery	<i>jmillsdr</i>
Mr Alex Koefman	Neurosurgery	<i>tasspine</i>

PenCat

There were further minor updates to the PenCat tool during August. The information below is taken directly from the release notes:

- Sexual health module has been improved to remove prefiltering of age groups and provide a new category for test results older than 12 months
- MBS item numbers 10897 and 10997 added
- Respiratory filter has been updated to align with the National Asthma Council of Australia guidelines and include COPD medication categories of LABA, LAMA and Relievers (SABA/SAMA), where previously it has only included Tiotropium.

Too much paper ?

Have you ever printed some PenCat patient lists for action and rued the amount of paper that is generated? If you have access to Microsoft Excel, you may want to consider saving the information as a spreadsheet, and then using some Excel smarts to dramatically reduce the size of the print job.

Here's how:

- ◆ Export the patient list to an Excel document, double click to open in Excel.
- ◆ Remove any data columns you don't require by clicking on the alphabetic column headings, right-clicking and selecting *Delete*.
- ◆ Select the entire listing by clicking the grey square in the extreme top-left corner of the spreadsheet. Right click on one of the numeric row headings at far left. Select *Row Height* and change to e.g. 15.
- ◆ Under File..Print
 - * Change the page orientation to *Portrait*
 - * Change the margins to *Narrow*
 - * Change the scaling to *Fit all columns on one page*
 - * If your printer supports it, select *Print on Both Sides*

Using these tips I took a report of 9200 patients that was a 920 page print job in PenCat and turned it into a 165 page job from Excel, which actually would have printed out in 83 pages using both sides of the page. That's less than 10% the size of the print job done thru PenCat. Of course, you can always not print the list out, work on it using Excel to show any notations etc.

Templates

The following templates were created during August and are available at my website [here](#):

- ◆ Integrated Physiotherapy Referral
- ◆ PBS Authority Narcotic Restrictions

MD

The availability of a funded Meningococcal vaccination for teenagers, has led to a common question arising again. Namely, how can we organise an alert or prompt to display in the patient record for a group of patients based on a specific criteria. The *Outstanding Actions* utility is the obvious choice, but there is no way to *directly* generate this prompt for multiple patients.

There is however a workaround method using 3 intersecting systems as follows:

1. Use *MD Search* to identify eligible patients and generate a bulk recall.
2. Use *Recalls* to move the items en masse to *Outstanding Actions*.
3. Use *Outstanding Actions* to display the prompt in the patient record.

Step 1 Use MD Search to identify eligible patients and generate a bulk recall.

From the menu go to Search..Patient and input the age range as depicted below. Click *Search*.

The screenshot shows the 'Patient Search' dialog box with the following settings:

- Age: Age greater than or equal to: 15, Age less than or equal to: 19
- Gender: All, Not Stated, Male, Female, Intersex/Other
- Transgender: All, Yes, No
- Pregnant: All, Yes, No
- ATSI: Not stated/inadequately described, Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, Neither Aboriginal nor Torres Strait Islander
- Smoker: Smoker >= /day, Never Smoked, Ex-Smoker
- Drug/Condition: Currently taking drug, Currently taking drug from class, Previous script for drug, Condition, Symptom, Sign
- Seen By: Seen By: Any doctor, Not seen since: 24/08/2017
- From: 24/08/2017, To: 24/08/2017
- Pack Years: [Empty]
- Custom Field 2: [Empty]
- Custom Field 3: [Empty]
- Search criteria: All patients aged between 15 and 19
- Buttons: Search (highlighted), Clear, Close

From the resultant patient list (not depicted) click *Add Recall*. Note that these recalls are not going to be in the recalls system for more than 5 minutes or so. Use free text suitable for the "one-off" prompt you are generating. It should be instructional encompassing checking for the necessity of the vaccination and deleting the action prompt if vaccination was not required or was subsequently given.

Make it a *Once only Recall* due today. Click *Save*.

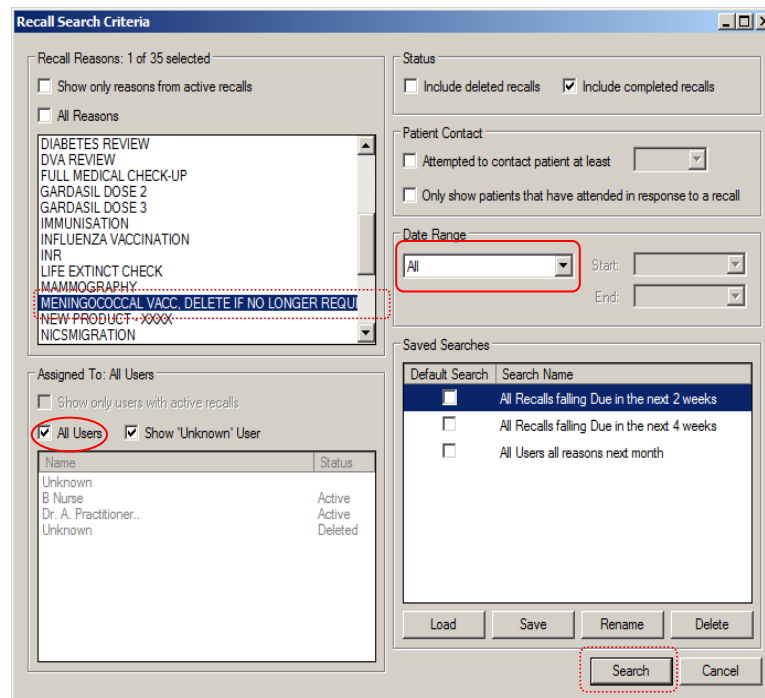
The screenshot shows the 'Add Recall Multiple Patients Selected' dialog box with the following settings:

- Assigned To: B Nurse
- Recall Reason: Meningococcal Vacc. delete if no longer required
- Due Date: 24/08/2017
- Recall Options: Return urgently, Once only Recall
- Recall Interval: 1, Weeks, Months, Years
- Buttons: Add Reason, Edit Reason, Delete Reason, Save (highlighted), Cancel

Continued..

Step 2 Use Recalls to move the items en masse to Outstanding Actions.

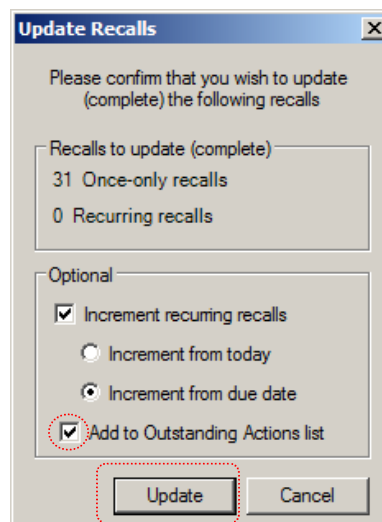
Go to *Search Recall*, select the specific reason you used as well as *All Users* and the *All* date range.



You should now see the same list of names you saw at the previous step.

(As an aside, if you are set up for SMS messaging in MD, you could quite quickly send a customised SMS reminder message to everyone on this list who had a mobile number recorded)

From the top menu, click on *Select All and Update*. From the resulting dialogue, ensure that the *Add to Outstanding Actions List* box is ticked. This has the effect of completely removing these recalls and transferring them to the *Outstanding Actions* system. *Click Update*.



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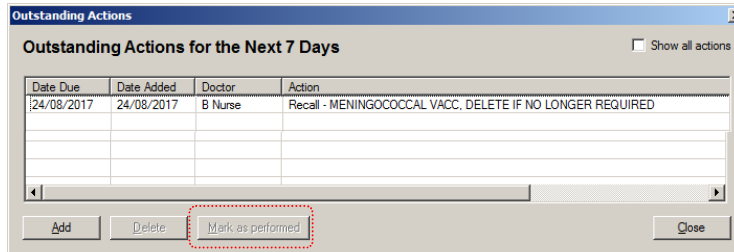
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MD

Continued..

Step 3 Use *Outstanding Actions* to display the prompt in the patient record.

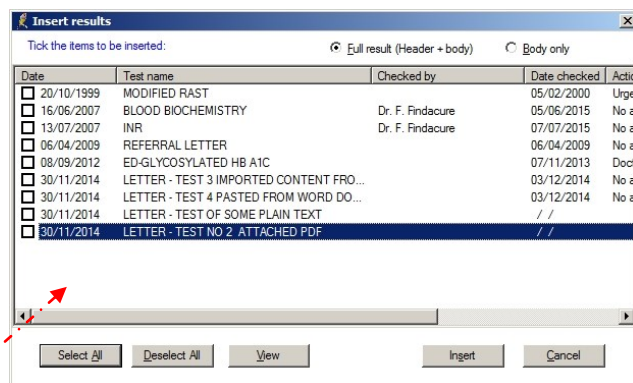
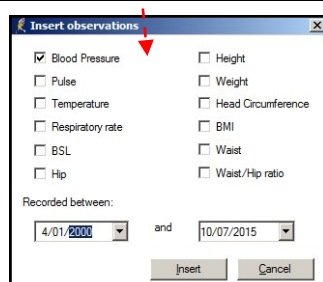
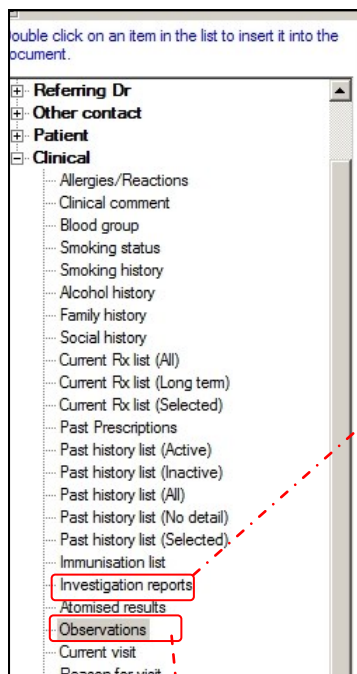
Every patient on the list will now display the prompt when the record is opened. The Action should be marked as performed when no longer required.



Note that this method could be used for any patient criteria that can be searched for, for example patients with Type 2 Diabetes who you may want to remind about [Diabetes Tasmania's](#) programs such as DESMOND, the COACH and Smarts.

BP

The Best Practice document generation section known as *Correspondence Out*, has a useful feature, that whilst constantly visible, is not always fully utilised by clinicians. It is known as the *Data Tree*, and is depicted below. This feature enables you to insert into your document, all types of information relation to the current patient.



In the example above, the clinician has expanded the *Clinical* category from the *Data Tree*, and selected *Investigation reports*.

BP presents a list of the patient's stored Investigations and the clinician can select which ones they want for inclusion in the document.

In the second example, (below left), the clinician wants to add a patient's blood pressure history to a document. By double clicking on *Observations*, a list of choices is presented along with some parameters for the date range required. Once selections have been made, a table of the values is added to the document.

You may be surprised at the wealth of information that can be added this way, including other clinical information, previous consultation notes, patient demographic information and other provider contact details from your BP address book.