

PracSavvy

Clinical Systems Support and Training

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November 2018 — Newsbrief

This month's newsletter contains a good size e referral update. Please let me know if there are any e referable specialists that I have omitted and I will add them to the listing , (after gaining their permission).

I came across some cloud based software this month that can only send an electronic document if it can actually verify the specific individual provider in the [online healthlink directory](#). So if you are enjoying the reduction in scanning and you want to support this developing infrastructure, login to the above directory and make sure that your practice reflects all the current providers. If you haven't got a login, [Healthlink](#) will give you one very promptly. Additionally you could put this item on your "New Dr" checklist.

You will see other specialists and allied health practices in this directory, but this does not automatically mean they have clinical software capable of receiving electronic letters, or even want to. Some practices just use healthlink for pathology or imaging or do not have the desire to receive letters electronically.

Everyone on my listing has consented to being available for e referral and in many cases we have swapped test messages. If you are going to send to someone not shown on this listing, at least check with their practice first.

By my reckoning there are now just under 130 specialists state-wide that are e referable, and in the other direction, there are over 12000 documents a month that don't need to be scanned any more.

Feels like progress!

eReferral

I sent out a bit of an update request during the last month to the specialist clinics that appear on my [listing](#), just to try and pick up any retirements or new clinicians. Just under half of them replied, so this month's update reflects those changes as well as some new participants.

New

Dr Mahmood Al-Majmuei	Rheumatology	Sth	<i>jzrheuma</i>
Dr Wun Yee Lou	Immunology	Sth	<i>jzrheuma</i>
Dr Mel Nardi	Gynaecology	Sth	<i>hobartog</i>
Dr Tania Hingston	Gynaecology	Sth	<i>ewhealth</i>
Dr Emily Price	Gynaecology	Sth	<i>ewhealth</i>
Dr Simon Binny	Cardiology	Nth	<i>heartctr</i>
Dr Greg Hasking	Cardiology	Nth	<i>heartctr</i>
Dr Sam Lovibond	Cardiology	Nth	<i>heartctr</i>
Dr Tony Patinotis	General Surgery	Nth	<i>heartctr</i>
Launceston EEG Clinic		Nth	<i>lmc32lmc</i>
Royal Flying Doctor Service			<i>rfdcstas</i>

Remove

Dr Ian Chambers	Oral and Maxillofacial		<i>tas2omis</i>
Dr Jane Zochling	Rheumatology		<i>tasspine</i>
Dr Stewart Healey	Cardiology		<i>heartctr</i>

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Templates

The following new templates were created during the previous month and are available at my website [here](#):

Princes-Square Cardiology - Dr Koshy (North)

Alcohol and Drug Service (ADS) Intake and Referral form (statewide)

As always please let me know if you need assistance importing these.

PenCat

By my reckoning, some practices have been utilising PenCat for eleven years now, and happily it continues to evolve and offer new and useful functionality. In the last month the tool includes an update that seriously enhances your ability to check your utilisation of any MBS item number.

There has always been plenty of capability within the tool to match clinical need with MBS utilisation, chiefly around care plans and health assessments. However with the addition of an MBS attendance filter in the top half of the screen, the practice can now *start* with the MBS number(s) as the first part of a search.

The screenshot shows the PenCat software interface with the following elements:

- Menu bar: File, Edit, View, Tools, Data Submission, Prompts, Help
- Toolbar: Collect, View Extracts, Hide Filter, Report, View Population, Dashboard, CAT4, Cleansing CAT, Registrar CAT
- Navigation tabs: General, Ethnicity, Conditions, Medications, Date Range (Results), Date Range (Visits), Patient Name, Patient Status, Providers, Risk Factors, MBS Attendance
- Section: Patient with selected MBS Item(s) in Date Range
- Filter options:
 - MBS Item Categories:** Any (selected), None
 - Claim Date Range:** All (selected), <= 6 months, <= 12 months, <= 24 months, <= 36 months, <= 48 months, Data Range (from - to)
 - MBS Item Categories (checkboxes):** RACF, Health Assessment (checked), GP MH Care Plan, Diabetes SIP, Asthma COC, Telehealth
 - MBS Item Numbers (checkboxes):** 715, 721, 723, 731, 732, 73806, 74990, 758, 900

The illustration above depicts the new filter, with the first line giving you the ability to select “none”, and then coupled with one of the date ranges shown below you could generate a list of patients with no MBS billing in a given period.

More commonly, you will use the filter in the following way.

- 1) Select *Any*
- 2) Select a *Claim Date Range* from the choices beneath
- 3) Select either a related group of item numbers, or pick them individually from the long list at far right. Note that this list will contain all of the Item numbers that you have billed at some point.
- 4) Decide whether you want to patients who have or haven't had the selected Item No(s) billed
- 5) Click *Recalculate* (button not depicted)
- 6) Click the *View Population* to view the entire patient list of analyse further with the graphing tools.

In the very basic example above, I have asked PenCat to show me a list of patients who have not had either a Health Assessment or an Aged Care Item billed. Coupled with the Age filter of >75 years that I have set on the other filter (not depicted), I should get a list of patients who are eligible for Health Assessments, and have not been billed an RACF number, i.e. they are not nursing home residents.

As I mentioned earlier, this filter lets you start with the MBS item and go from there. It gives you another easier way, for example to search for patients who have been billed for a GPMP 721 in the last 12 months, but have not been billed for a Review 732. Your choices for MBS related searching have just become unlimited. The item categories that group related items together are very useful too, and there is a PenCat document that explains the filter usage [here](#).

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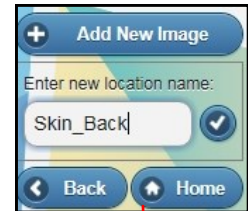
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MD

There is a widget lurking in the MD Sidebar called [imageSafe](#), which may well be of interest to GPs who would like to have a more efficient method of recording images and saving them in the patient's file. If you would like to explore this functionality and the widget isn't installed, just go to the *Sidebar* menu item select *Add/Remove widgets*, and click the imageSafe icon.



The sidebar should be running in the maximised (unpinned) setting for images to display correctly. To add a new image, click on the widget, give the location a name and click the ✓ button.



Next you are asked to nominate the image source. Whilst you could add the image from a file on your computer, this function is already available in MD. This widget becomes really useful when the GP has installed the imageSafe app on their mobile phone. Note that if a patient has the app installed you can get them to send an image through.



Choose *From Mobile*..

The widget then waits for an image sent from the GP mobile phone app. When the GP activates the phone app, they are asked for some login details which are shown on the widget screen in MD as per the graphic on the right. You are only required to enter these details the first time you use the app. These are the details that cement the relationship between the app and your MD login. The app itself behaves pretty much like a standard phone camera app.



Once you are happy with the image captured by the app, press the *Accept* button. In a few moments you should see a reassuring "100% success" message and at the same time, the image will appear in the imageSafe section of the sidebar.

The images themselves are not stored directly in MD, but rather at the secure imageSafe server. As mentioned previously, you can use a very similar method to get a patient to send you a photo.

imageSafe also has the ability to update existing images as well as some tools for viewing and annotating the images. If you want to evaluate the tool, you are given 27 free image credits to experiment with. More information is available at the [website](#), as well as in an MD educational video [here](#).



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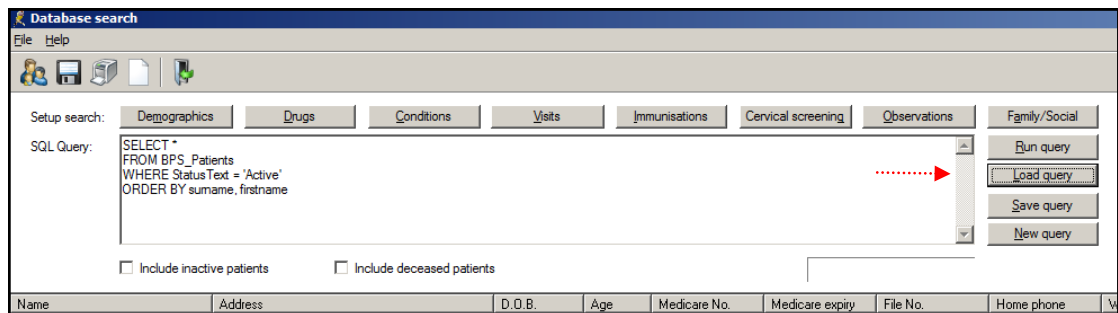
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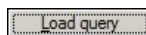
BP

I'm probably regarded as somebody who thinks the PenCat tool is the "best thing since sliced bread", but recently I've had to reevaluate this idea. Mainly because I think the whole sliced-bread idea is overrated, especially when you consider what's available in unsliced form from places like [this](#).

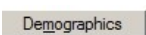
Feeble attempts at humour aside, whilst PenCat is certainly great, the built in search tool provided by BP is probably underused and underrated, so I thought I would highlight the good bits that practices may be overlooking.



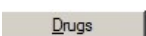
From the main screen in BP, click on the *Utilities* menu and then *Search*. (If you don't see this then see your practice manager about setting the permission for you). The screen depicted above is your search query builder, with buttons giving you clear categories to pick from. Once you have input your criteria, then clicking the *Run Query* button performs the search.



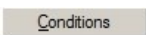
Even though I just told you this was a query builder, clicking on this button takes you to a library of almost 150 pre-prepared searches that you can run, without having to know which parameters to choose. Additionally some of these queries contain parameters that you are not able to come up with using the provided buttons and fields. If clicking the button doesn't take you to these queries, browse to the following file-path `C:\Program Files\Best Practice Software\BPS\SuppliedQueries`, or it's equivalent in your system.



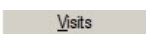
Any searching around age, gender etc here. Also address details including coming up with `Postcode < 7000` to weed out all those pesky tourists.



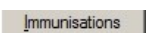
Search by product, ingredient or class as well as incorporating a date range and the ability to search current medications or past prescriptions.



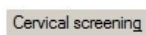
Search for clinical conditions with the facility to search Past History **or** Reason for Visit



Search for visits to a specific person in a specific date range.



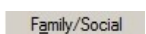
Search for specific vaccinations given and not given in a date range.



Detailed parameters for cervical screening searches here.



If you've entered the observation details correctly, you can search for any of them.



Using this you can generate lists of current pregnancies, smokers, drinkers and anyone who has a family history of a certain illness.

Exploring this again reminded me of what's available using a BP search, so don't think you are completely stuck if you don't have ready access to PenCat.