

NESST Newsflash

Hi Everyone,

Welcome to the NESST Newsflash. If you wish to unsubscribe to this Newsletter, please reply to this email and NESST will remove you from our mailing list. ☺

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NESST Regional Zoom

Our next Regional Zooms will be held on **24 November** at 2pm

The agenda will continue as follows:

2pm Welcome and Introductions

Update from ACAT/RAS – questions

Regional roundup and NESST Update

2:45pm IncludeUs Workshop –The third webinar will continue to move us into using our learnings from webinar one and two to approach The Aged Care Quality Standards using the Head Heart Act Reflect framework. For more information contact deb@nesst.org.au

NESST Free On-line Training Portal

Have a look at the new portal! We have now moved most content over to the new platform. A certificate is emailed on completion. Please share with your staff and volunteers within the New England area:

<https://nesstbasictraining.thinkific.com/>

On this site you will find:

An introduction to the Commonwealth Home Support Programme

Food Safety for Seniors

Dementia Basics

Still awaiting review and transition is:

Community Basics

<https://www.inductforwork.com.au/portals/new-england-sector-support-team-online-induction-nesst-basic-training>

If you are having trouble getting the modules to load for some people, please give us a call and we will resend the invitation to the individual.

If you would prefer to host a paper-based group session we are happy to help. We can provide resources and send out certificates after completion.



CHSP Orientation on Zoom – 19 November 2020 @ 1.30pm

Hi all please follow the link to register for this training:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83019220609?pwd=SWICV0lWdTZud05PMnFiblhvak5yQT09>

First aid training for CHSP providers

To help support vulnerable, older Australians, all CHSP service providers are responsible for ensuring staff and volunteers in direct care roles receive accredited first aid training and certification.

The department regards the cost of first aid training as a reasonable and necessary expense of safe and effective aged care service delivery. As such, CHSP providers should factor the cost of first aid training into their existing grant funding in the same way as rent, utilities, personal protective equipment and staff wages.

Direct care roles in which first aid training is mandatory include workers who have face to face interactions with clients delivering the following services:

- Allied Health and therapy Services
- Nursing
- Personal Care
- Social Support (Individual and Group)
- Transport
- Respite services
- Meals (where regular social support is provided)
- Other food services.

Workers across all other services are encouraged, but not required, to undertake first aid training.

Building Resilience Training via Zoom Video Conferencing

Wesley LifeForce will be conducting a Building Resilience Workshop via Zoom video conferencing on **Tuesday 24 November & Wednesday 25 November 2020** between **9.30 am and 11.30am AEDT (Sydney Time)** each day.

The training looks at how adjusting our lifestyle and introducing cognitive strategies can improve resilience and mental health. The participant is given the opportunity to reflect on their personal management of their mental health through relevant topics and group discussion.

The cost to complete the two x 2 hour sessions is \$125 plus GST. To register please click here:

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/wesley-lifeforce-training-building-resilience-workshop-zoom-online-tickets-124489219607>

Addressing challenges in dementia care through collaboration

The over-reliance on medicines including antipsychotics and benzodiazepines in the management of dementia has been one of the areas of focus of the current Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety. A new national educational program by NPS MedicineWise, *Dementia and changed behaviours: a person-centred approach*, will support health professionals and consumers in caring for people with dementia who experience changed behaviours in both aged care and community settings. NPS MedicineWise medical adviser and GP Dr Anna Samecki says the program's focus is on the importance of person-centred care.

<https://tinyurl.com/y4logntj>

United Workers union deliver petition to Morrison demanding action on home care waitlists

United Workers Union home care members deliver a petition of 2000 signatures of home care workers, clients and families to Scott Morrison's office to send a strong message to the public and politicians that home care waitlists need to be cleared. We need to rebuild a better, fairer system that provides quality and dignity of care and values the skills of the workforce. There are currently more than 100,000 people on the home care waitlist. In addition, care workers are paid low wages, aren't given enough time to provide quality care, and are being pressured on to zero-hour contracts while making themselves available around the clock. [Read more](#)

Dementia rises to second leading cause of death for Australian men

Dementia, including Alzheimer's disease, overtook lung cancer as the second leading cause of death for men and remained the leading cause for women in 2019, data released by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) shows. Director of Health and Vital Statistics at the ABS, James Eynstone-Hinkins, said dementia accounted for just over 15,000 of the 169,301 deaths in 2019. The number of dementia deaths has increased by 67% over the past 10 years. "Heart disease remained the leading cause of death, with more than 18,000 deaths in 2019. Heart disease is the leading cause among men and is responsible for twice as many male deaths as dementia," he said. [Read more](#)

New insights into COVID-19 deaths in Australia

Australia had 682 COVID-19 deaths by the end of August, according to data released today by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS). Assistant Director of Mortality Statistics at the ABS, Lauren Moran, said the latest data showed there were pre-existing conditions in 73 per cent of COVID-19 deaths, with the data not including deaths that occurred after August. "Data based on death registrations provides us with insights into the diseases that are consequences of COVID-19, as well as co-morbid conditions which may have contributed to COVID-19 deaths," said Ms Moran. "Pre-existing chronic conditions were reported for 73 per cent (496) of COVID-19 deaths. Among these 496 deaths, dementia was noted on 41 per cent of death certificates, chronic cardiac conditions on 32 per cent, diabetes on 17 per cent and hypertension on 16 per cent. [Read more](#)

Serious Incident Response Scheme for Home and Community Aged Care

The Serious Incident Response Scheme (SIRS) in residential aged care will be implemented from early 2021. The Department of Health is conducting further preparatory work to inform advice to Government on extending the SIRS to home and community aged care. KPMG has been engaged by the Department of Health (the Department) to support the preparatory work, including to:

- Design options for a SIRS in home and community aged care
- Conduct a prevalence study on serious incidents in home and community aged care.

As part of the prevalence study, KPMG plans to gather data from November 2020 to April 2021 on the prevalence of serious incidents in home and community aged care. The serious incidents in scope for the prevalence study are those that are alleged, suspected or actual incidents involving:

- A staff member and a consumer or their carer/family member where the incident is committed by a staff member
- Two or more consumers where the incident is committed by one of the consumers in a community setting.

Your participation in this prevalence study is very important as it will help model national estimates of the nature and prevalence of serious incidents occurring in home and community aged care.

If you are interested in participating in this prevalence study, please register your provider using this online registration tool. Registration will take less than five minutes to complete.

If you would like more information on the project, please contact KPMG at SIRSprevalencestudy@kpmg.com.au.

Department of Health Updates

Keep up to date – find all the updates here:

<https://www.health.gov.au/news/newsletters>