



GP News

Connecting healthcare for the benefit of patients

Elimination of cervical cancer in sight



Cervical cancer could be effectively eliminated within the next 40 years, with Australia set to be the first country, according to the world's leading cervical cancer experts.

In a statement published in the journal *Papillomavirus Research* on International HPV Awareness Day, the International Papillomavirus Society (IPVS) has for the first time outlined that cervical cancer could soon be eliminated as a public health problem.

The IPVS is made up of the world's leading cervical cancer and Human Papillomavirus (HPV) researchers, including Professor Suzanne Garland from the Royal Women's Hospital and University of Melbourne, and advises the WHO and global policy makers on cervical cancer prevention and screening..

Professor Garland who is the Director of the Centre for Women's Infectious Diseases at the Royal Women's Hospital said Australia's high uptake of the vaccine and high screening rates will likely result in our country being the first country to effectively eliminate the disease..

[Read more on the Women's website.](#)

1800 My Options Sexual and Reproductive Health Information and Phonline Service



1800 My Options is Victoria's new Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) Information and Phone Service.

1800 My Options is a service of Women's Health Victoria. It will fulfil the role previously undertaken by the Royal Women's Hospital's Pregnancy Advisory Service (PAS) as the state-wide provider of information and support in relation to contraception, pregnancy options and sexual health.

The service aims to provide all Victorian women with access to sexual and reproductive health information including where they can access clinical services (eg. contraception and/or abortion providers), as well as other relevant services and supports (eg. decision-making counselling).

1800 My Options can be contacted on 1800 696 784, or you can **visit the 1800 My Option website**

The Women's will continue to provide an Abortion and Contraception Service primarily as a self-referral service for vulnerable women and women with complex needs.

Transvaginal Mesh Inquiry

The Senate Community Affairs References Committee tabled its report into transvaginal mesh implants in Parliament on 28 March 2018.

The report outlines the use and regulation of transvaginal mesh in Australia, explores the impacts on women, and outlines a series of recommendations. The Senate committee is calling on the federal and state governments to commission an audit of all mesh devices and outcomes and establish specialist units across the country to assess and manage the long-term severe complications experienced by some women.

In a **statement released on 29 March**, RANZCOG welcomed the release of the report and said it reflects concerns expressed by the College in its submission to the Senate inquiry.

The full report can be found on the **Parliament of Australia website**.

Pregnancy Care, Shared Care Guidelines

Updated Pregnancy Care Guidelines

The first review of the Clinical Practice Guidelines - Pregnancy Care Guidelines (formerly known as the Antenatal Care Guidelines) has been completed and is now available to view on the [Commonwealth Department of Health's website](#).

The guidelines have been developed to provide a reliable and standard reference for health professionals providing antenatal care. They summarise the available evidence on many aspects of antenatal care and have been designed to improve the experience and outcomes of pregnancy care for Australian women and their families.

Shared Care Guidelines

The Guidelines for Shared Maternity Care Affiliates are [available on the Women's website](#). These guidelines provide shared maternity care affiliates with concise, up-to-date guidelines on the provision of shared maternity care at the Women's, Mercy Health, Western Health and Werribee Mercy.

The shared maternity care guidelines will be reviewed over the next year. We welcome your input and will keep you updated. Please send an email with any issues or comments in relation to the guidelines to the [GP Liaison Unit](#) at the Womens.

New patient information pamphlets

Two new RANZCOG Patient Information pamphlets have been developed and are now available on the [Women's Health pages](#) of the College website.

The new topics are Heavy Menstrual Bleeding and Hysterectomy.

Fundamentals in Obstetric Care workshop

Monash University Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology will be holding a two day workshop on the Fundamentals in Obstetric Care.

The workshop will provide JMS, GP-Obstetricians and Midwives with the most up-to-date evidence-based clinical practice, delivered by a team of experts. The course will be held on 20th and 21st April 2018 at Monash Medical Centre.

Read more on the [Monash University website](#).

Antenatal care for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women

In the fourth part of a series focusing on the coming third edition of the 'National guide to a preventive health assessment for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, newsGP looks at health for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women during pregnancy.

The article says that an Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) 2016 report found that:

- although less likely to receive antenatal care early in pregnancy than non-Indigenous women, there has been an increase in ATSI women attending antenatal visits
- ATSI women have higher rates of gestational diabetes than those of non-Indigenous women; in 2014, an estimated 4 per cent of pregnant ATSI women had pre-existing diabetes and 13 per cent developed gestational diabetes
- although almost half of ATSI women smoked during pregnancy in 2015, compared to 12% of non-Indigenous women, these rates are decreasing

Read more on the [RACGP website](#).

Contact

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The Women's Switchboard ph: 8345 2000

The Women's Abortion and Contraception service professional line (03) 8345 3061 (not for use by women needing the service).

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the royal women's hospital
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You have received this email because you are a Shared Maternity Care Affiliate and GP, or you have asked for online updates from the GP Liaison Unit

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