

GP Tender Opportunity 2019 – 2021 After-Hours Primary Health Care Options

The PHN invites general practitioners (GPs) to partner with us in 2020 - 2021 to deliver solutions to improve health outcomes for people living in our region requiring primary care in the after-hours period.

The key goals of this tender opportunity with general practice are to:

- increase the efficiency and effectiveness of after-hours primary health care for patients, particularly those with limited access to health services;
- improve access to after-hours primary health care through effective planning, coordination and support for population based after-hours primary health care; and
- improve the availability of after-hours general practice services through working collaboratively.



GP Tender Opportunity



In February 2020, the PHN will be releasing a closed, competitive tender for general practices in the Darling Downs and West Moreton PHN area.

The tender will be released through a Request for Tender (RFT) on our e-Tender portal, Tenderlink <https://www.tenderlink.com/ddwmpnh/>

RFT submissions should look to deliver on the after-hours program objectives that sit under the Department of Health after-hours guidance material. This information can be found under 'What we can fund' on the following page.

Current after-hours priorities informed by the Department of Health and Darling Downs and West Moreton PHN Health Needs Assessment include the following cohorts:

- vulnerable people, including those who are, or at risk of, homelessness, refugees, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and those with, or at risk of, severe mental health conditions, suicide and alcohol and other drugs use;
- people presenting to emergency departments in the after-hours period for non-acute health care, particularly in larger hospitals; and
- people with complex care requirements needing access to multiple health services including an after-hours response plan who would benefit from service integration strategies.

This will be a closed competitive tender for general practice only.

WHAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR



We are seeking applications from individual general practices or a consortium of practices to provide innovative, local after-hours initiatives.

Models may target people across the lifespan, including but not limited to:

- children, young people and adults with mental health conditions and alcohol and other drug use issues;
- people with complex chronic conditions; and
- older people and palliative care patients.



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WHAT WE CAN FUND



In accordance with Department of Health guidance materials, we can fund:

- high quality, innovative, locally relevant and effective after-hours primary health care, based on community need, as identified in the latest PHN Health Needs Assessment and taking into account a ‘systems-view’ of after-hours service provision;
- collaboration and partnerships that support the after-hours care system to help meet the needs of patients and address gaps in the provision of after-hours primary health care;
- opportunities for planning and co-design of models to enable more sustainable solutions;
- models that build capacity to work with key after-hours stakeholders to foster local level solutions particularly where the Practice Incentives Program (PIP) After-Hours Incentive may not reach;
- after-hours primary care services in residential aged care homes. Work with homes to address specific after-hours issues, particularly by improving the capacity of aged care homes to work collaboratively with general practice and primary health care organisations to foster innovation and local models of care to support patient access;
- models addressing service delivery challenges for after-hours primary health care in rural and remote locations including links with hospitals;
- collaboratives with pharmacies or allied health services to assist in meeting the needs of local communities for after-hours primary health care, including in areas of high need to increase opening hours and establishing safety and security protocols for the after-hours period;

- support for disadvantaged groups, including palliative care and house-bound aged patients, where a complex interplay between patients, carers and service providers occurs both after-hours and at other times; and
- utilisation of appropriate information sharing, health literacy, data collection and electronic health mechanisms.

FUNDING AVAILABLE



We acknowledge that different models will support different areas of the region based on the local need, availability of existing services, current partnerships, collaboratives and/or consortia.

With this in mind, and to be as flexible as possible, funding will be allocated based on the following considerations:

- innovation, sustainability and scalability, and when the project ends, evidence of how the activity will continue to have an impact for patient care after hours;
- collaborative initiatives that build on current relationships and partnerships in general practice and with other health professionals and providers in the area; and/or
- small and large projects from seeding grants to larger complex consortia submissions.

Please see back page of this tender opportunity for details on how the PHN will support your practice to submit a tender and a timeline of key dates.

How will we support your practice to apply?



ROUND TABLES



GPs and other key practice staff interested in submitting a tender for funding will be invited to participate in round table discussions across the region to:

- gain an understanding of what the PHN and the Department of Health priorities are for after-hours primary care;
- learn about the key objectives and goals for after-hours funding including indicators and measures for reporting to the Department of Health and evaluation; and
- participate in collegiate discussions on after-hours barriers and to explore options for how general practices might work together to develop consortia models to enable a larger geographical reach.

TENDER WRITING SUPPORT



For general practices where developing a Request for Tender is not a familiar concept, GPs and key practice staff will:

- have the opportunity to participate in tender writing workshops specifically designed to align to PHN procurement processes;
- be taken through a 'test' tender in real time within the tendering system (Tenderlink);
- have access to tender workshop content uploaded to the Tenderlink portal to support the development of a tender; and
- have the option to ask questions throughout the tender process and have access to all questions and answers so that everyone is receiving the same information at the same time.

TIMELINE

Round Tables	Early February
Tender Release	Mid February
Tender Writing Workshops	Mid-late February
Tender closes for evaluation, shortlisting and moderation	April 2020
Unsuccessful applications notified. Contracts awarded and negotiation phase.	May 2020
Stand up period	1 June 2020
Service delivery commencement	1 July 2020

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