

On the 7<sup>th</sup> of June, the Practice-Based Research Network, GoldNet, held their bi-annual research networking event at the Faculty of Health Sciences and Medicine at Bond University. The topic was “Involvement of the general practice team in research” with presentations of projects completed and active in general practice nation-wide. We invited practice nurses, practice managers, allied health, GPs, and primary care researchers with an interest in improving patient outcomes through collaborative projects.

Our presenters:

[Dr Sameera Ansari](#), Postdoctoral Research Fellow, UNSW: presented her recent pilot study titled “[The Activating Primary Care Patients with COPD \(APCOM\)](#)” pilot study.

[Ms Catherine Stephen](#), RN, Lecturer and PhD Candidate at the University of Wollongong: shared her experiences of completing a “Nurse-led intervention for improving blood pressure control” amidst the 2020 bushfires and during a global pandemic

Our panellists:

Ms Anthea Blower Practice Manager, Hope Island Medical Centre and Homeworld Helensvale Medical Centre

Ms Sara Drew, Nurse Programs Manager at Australian Primary Health Care Nurses Association

Professor Nick Zwar, Chair of GoldNet Steering Committee, and Executive Dean of Faculty of Health Sciences and Medicine, Bond University

Some key take home messages from our presenters and panellists:

- “*In it for us and our patients*”. Clinicians and researchers should remember this quote from Catherine Stephen’s [ImPress study](#) when engaging the general practice team. Research must be beneficial for the patient, as the general practice team ultimately want to improve patient care and be learning new and effective ways to achieve better patient outcomes.
- Nurse-led interventions can provide an enhanced level of care including more time with patients with chronic and complex conditions and provides professional development opportunities for nurses to learn about research practices and new professional skills such as motivational interviewing such as in the [Activating Primary Care Patients with COPD \(APCOM\)](#).
- To engage practice nurses and practice managers in research their time needs to be adequately compensated including financial and professional development opportunities.
- Benefit of research is a long-term investment to improve patient outcomes, improve professional’s confidence and creating professional development opportunities for practice nurses and practice managers.
- Clinicians should consider how they currently contribute to broader data collection and research in primary care through engagement with their Primary Health Network initiatives by ensuring their patient records are up to date.

GoldNet Research would like to thank our speakers and our partners: the Institute for Evidence-Based Healthcare, Bond University, Griffith University, and the Gold Coast Primary Health Network.

To engage with GoldNet, and hear about upcoming events and journal clubs, please visit our website:

<https://www.goldnetresearch.com.au/>