



Safety Newsletter

April 2022

The weather is getting cooler and it has finally stopped constantly raining (for now)! Seems like a great time to book in for your annual flu vaccine - free for all current staff and students. It's also time to get involved in an exciting new health and wellbeing event - VP GO. This is the program that has replaced the Virgin Pulse Global Challenge. It features a holistic health and wellbeing platform including a fun 9-week team-based activity challenge. Book in to the info session on 3 May and start putting your teams together!

In Safety news, we've got some reminders about taking action on hazards and not leaving things for someone else to deal with, complete with a cute video (I felt sorry for the sad, neglected power cord)! We've also got important information about how to correctly use Dangerous Goods cabinets and a reminder about the information you need to collect when administering First Aid.

Suicide Prevention training is available to all staff and students, and spots are still available in some of the upcoming Mental Health First Aid training sessions. There's also a Benestar webinar on Communicating Clearly which is open to all staff.

New Health and Wellbeing Event for UNSW Staff
VP GO



Flu Vaccines 2022

The influenza vaccine will be arriving at the UNSW Health Service in late April 2022. Flu vaccines are free for all current UNSW staff and students and are strongly recommended. Any flu vaccine related appointments will be bulk billed.

Why is the flu vaccine so important this year?

The flu vaccine will reduce the number of people who get the flu and therefore the number of people needing hospital beds as a result of severe flu, limiting the impact on the health system. It is possible to get the flu and COVID-19 at the same time which will likely cause significantly worse symptoms.

Can I get the flu vaccine and COVID -19 vaccine at the same time?

Yes, both flu and COVID-19 vaccines can be given at the same time. If you are aged over 65 or are immunocompromised, now is the time to book in. UNSW Health Service will provide separate clinics for these appointments.

Do I have to come to the Health Service?

Yes, you will need to come to the clinic to have your vaccination. We will be taking bookings online via our [HOTDOC booking platform](#).

When will the flu clinic commence?

The annual staff influenza clinics for 2022 will commence Wednesday 27 April 2022 and run until Friday 17 June, from 9am - 12.30pm. We are also offering Saturday clinics. Please visit [HOTDOC Online appointments](#).



Benestar Webinar - Communicating Clearly

Join Benestar on Wednesday 27 April for a webinar on Communicating Clearly. This webinar is free to join for all UNSW staff members.

Communicating Clearly will help you to:

- x Explore some of the theories of communication and why they are important
- x Recognise the impact of verbal and non-verbal communication
- x Understand the effect of values, attitudes and self-esteem on communication
- x Learn strategies to improve your communication skills in one-on-one and group situations

The webinar will be held on Teams from 12pm-1pm on Wednesday 27 April. Benestar webinars are no longer recorded, so you will not be able to view a recording after the event. Please attend at this time if you are available and you are interested in the topic.

[Please click here to register.](#)

Safety responsibilities in shared spaces?

Recently, several hazards were identified in spaces (waste rooms) shared by numerous staff and students across multiple schools and departments, and contractors. The hazards had been present for some time but hadn't been actioned, escalated, or reported until recently when discovered by the Safety team.

Safety is everyone's responsibility. We all have responsibility to take reasonable care of our own health and safety, and that of others within the workplace. If you see a hazard, report in WHS Monitor, the UNSW online hazard and incident reporting system. If safe to do so eliminate or mitigate the hazard.

For more information see:

[HS336 Responsibility, Authority and Accountability Procedure](#)

[HS307 Hazard & Incident Reporting Procedure](#)

Administering First Aid Treatment

Recently a student presented to a staff member, requesting a band-aid for a skin graze. The staff member, who wasn't a trained first aid officer, cleaned and dressed the wound but no information was collected from the student. Information needed includes:

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- x WHS duties are not transferable.
- x WHS duties cannot be contracted to another party, such as a subcontractor.
- x Duties can be shared, so more than one person can have the same duty at the same time. For example, a contractor and subcontractors, as PCBUs, will have the same duty to ensure access to first aid facilities at a workplace.
- x You must consult, cooperate and coordinate on WHS matters with other duty holders when working as part of a contractual chain.

For more information, visit Safe Work Australia: [WHS Duties in a Contractual Chain](#) factsheet.

Further information: safety@unsw.edu.au

Safety Alert: Incorrect use of Dangerous Goods (DG) Storage Cabinets

During a routine induction in the Chemical Waste Room in E26 LG026 it

Recognise & Respond - Suicide Prevention
UNSW Health is pleased to partner with Black Dog Institute to offer



Medibank Health Insurance Reviews

Medibank consultants will be available for one-on-one appointments for staff in April.