

# Initial Assessment and Referral - Decision Support Tool training for mental health care

## Background

Primary Health Tasmania is implementing the mental health Initial Assessment and Referral (IAR) digital decision support tool, which aims to standardise the assessment of people presenting with mental health conditions to ensure they're matched to the care that most suits their needs at the time.

The [IAR Decision Support Tool](#), supported by [national IAR guidance](#), was developed by the Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care and is designed to provide:

- advice relating to initial assessment and intake in mental health care (the eight domains)
- a description of evidence-based mental health services by level of intensity (the five levels of care)
- criteria to assist with matching an individual to a level of care that is most likely to meet the individual's treatment needs and recovery goals (the IAR decision support tool).

## Workshop format and content

The full session runs for two hours. The first part of the workshop is an educational component and will include:

- introduction to IAR and the development of the national guidance
- orientation to the domains, levels of care, and decision support tool
- clinical judgement and supported decision making
- introduction to and demonstration of the online decision support tool.

The second part of the workshop is interactive, and will include:

- introduction to the vignette
- large group activity, involving rating on Domain 1
- small group activity, involving rating on Domains 1-7 in smaller groups
- discussion of Recommended Level of Care
- educational component of clinical judgement and shared decision making.

## Learning outcomes

- Participants are familiar with the principles underpinning the national approach to stepped care.
- Describe the eight Initial Assessment Domains of the decision support tool.
- Define the five levels of care and provide examples of mental health services that belong to each level of care.
- Apply the IAR guidance to use the decision support tool to generate a recommended level of care.
- Apply the supported decision-making strategies to involve the patient in referral decision making.

## Speakers/facilitators

**Dr Anna Seth** is a Tasmanian GP with an interest in mental health. She is the Tasmanian GP Clinical Trainer for the IAR project and a Clinical Editor for HealthPathways. She is passionate about building a resilient mental health system that values the key role of GPs.

**Zoe Gillingham** is the Training Support Officer for Primary Health Tasmania and is working closely with and supporting Dr Anna Seth in the training and implementation of the IAR decision support tool across Tasmanian mental health service providers. Her background is in project coordination in the education sector and Zoe is

currently studying a Bachelor of Health Science, specialising in psychology and health promotion, as she is passionate about improving the mental health and wellbeing of Tasmanians.

To see a list of all upcoming training sessions, please [click here](#).

For more information about training on the IAR decision support tool, please email Zoe at [IAR@primaryhealthtas.com.au](mailto:IAR@primaryhealthtas.com.au) or call her on 6425 8517.

Further information is available on [Mental health assessment and referral decision support tool](#).

Primary Health Tasmania Limited ABN 47 082 572 629

1300 653 169

[info@primaryhealthtas.com.au](mailto:info@primaryhealthtas.com.au)

[www.primaryhealthtas.com.au](http://www.primaryhealthtas.com.au)



## Information for General Practitioners only

### Remuneration

GPs, and GPs-in-training who complete the two-hour training will be eligible for a one-off payment of \$300 as remuneration for their time, unless the GP is employed full time with a government-funded service.

### RACGP CPD program information

For RACGP members, this is a CPD Approved Activity (Activity ID 409650). The activity is worth 1 hour of Educational Activities, and 1.5 hours of Reviewing Performance.

### Eligibility for claiming remuneration and CPD hours

To obtain the full 2.5 hours for this hybrid activity and the remuneration, you will be required to:

- attend the full 2-hour IAR workshop
- actively engage in the training via at least one of the following:
  - camera on for the duration of the training, or at minimum during practical activity component
  - verbal communication, i.e. commenting or asking/answering questions via the microphone
  - written communication, i.e. commenting or asking/answering questions via the chat function
  - engagement in the practical activity, i.e. submitting ratings for the decision support tool using the chat function
- complete two surveys:
  - the 'experience of training' survey will be emailed to you within 48 hours of training
  - the 'outcome of training' survey will be emailed to you approximately three months after the training workshop.

Educational Activities	Measuring Outcomes	Reviewing Performance
1	0	1.5
hours	hours	hours

Details on how to claim reimbursement will be emailed to you after the training and hours for participants will be logged upon completion of the second survey.

***\*Please note: The 'experience of training' survey must be completed within 10 days of receipt. Failure to complete the survey within this timeframe will result in forfeiting 0.5 CPD hours in Reviewing Performance.***

### ACRRM, CPD/professional development program information

ACRRM has provided accreditation for the national IAR training package under its professional development program. The ACCRM ID for this accredited activity is 29124. ACCRM members who complete the IAR training are entitled to one and half hour of Performance Review and one hour of Educational Activity.

