

DEMENTIA RISK CLINIC SUMMARY REPORT AND RISK ALERT

in POLAR and Walrus

Background

In Australia, it is estimated that approximately 400,000 people are living with dementia.

As Dementia is the second leading cause of death in Australia overall, timely diagnosis allows for provision of information, initiation of evidence – based treatments, care and support, to improve the quality of life of people living with dementia.

Western Victoria Primary Health Network (WVPHN) have partnered with Face Dementia to support a practice improvement program across the region in how dementia is diagnosed and managed.

What is new?

If your practice shares data with WVPHN and you have access to POLAR and Walrus, you now have access to the latest tools to support your clinical management of patients with dementia.

What does this mean?

For WVPHN practices only, there is a new dementia clinic summary report available in POLAR and a dementia risk alert for Walrus.

If you have Best Practice or MedicalDirector software, your practice will be able to:

- identify and group eligible patients for dementia screening to enable the clinician to manage the requests and referrals within Walrus while the patient presents to the General Practice.
- access the Dementia Risk Clinic Summary report and allow the practice to select a patient cohort based on eligible patients that match the filter criteria.

Those practices using ZedMed software will have access to the Dementia Risk Clinic Summary report only.

How does this benefit my patients?

Timely diagnosis allows for:

- provision of information to patients and family
- initiation of evidence-based treatments
- the improvement of the quality of life of people living with dementia.

Early intervention can:

- improve cognitive function,
- help to treat depressive symptoms,
- provide caregiver support and delay need for out-of-home care services.

How does this benefit me as a GP?

- You will have first access to the dementia risk alert and clinic summary.
- You will have seamless access to the risk resources when seeing patients.
- You will be able to maximise these reports to:
 - increase care plans,
 - undertake quality improvement activities
 - undertake Measuring Outcomes (MOs) for Continuing Professional Development (CPD) requirements.

How do I use these tools?

Contact the practice facilitators or digital health officers to book in a session with WVPHN's experienced teams:

Practice Facilitators

e: QI@westvicphn.com.au

t: 1300 176 271

Digital Health

e: digitalhealth@westvicphn.com.au

Relevant Resources

- [Installing Walrus](#)
- [Walrus Walkthrough – Dementia Risk Alert](#)
- [POLAR for GPs](#)
- [Data extraction and analysis tool](#)

