

Sensory Room

What is a Sensory Room?

Sensory rooms are specially designed environments that provide a sensory experience to people, young and old, with a wide variety of different abilities. Traditionally, sensory rooms were used for relaxation and de-escalation, when people with autism, emotional and behavioural difficulties, sensory processing disorder, or other special needs would find themselves overwhelmed and in need of a safe and distracting place to return to a state of calm. Although sensory rooms are often still used for relaxation, they can also be used in conjunction with various therapy modalities.

The Norfolk Island Sensory Room project is the result of a collaboration between NI-Connect and Norfolk Island Health and Residential Aged Care Service (NIHRACS). It is housed and administered by NI-Connect and funded and overseen by the Health and Wellbeing Team from NIHRACS.

To book a session in the sensory room, contact NI Connect on 23380. Bookings are accepted for Monday to Friday, between the hours of 9.00am to 5.00pm. Sessions will be in 30 minute blocks, with multiple sessions able to be booked if the person requires longer than 30 minutes.

Men's Health Week 14-20 June – Free Men's Health Checks on Saturday 19 June at The Bowling Club

All men are invited to come along to a free Men's Health Check event at the Bowling Club on Saturday 19 June from 3.30pm – 4.30pm to coincide with the end of bowls for the day. We will have male volunteer health professionals available to help with the checks. There will also be lots of useful information about men's health. Come along and have your blood pressure, blood sugar, body mass index and girth measured plus have a chat about your health and wellbeing.

Healthy Cooking Demonstration

Our next Healthy Cooking demonstration featuring chef James Garden, will be held on Thursday 24 June at 5.30pm at The Local. The theme is healthy soups and is just in time for our cold weather. Cost is only \$5 which includes tasting. If you would like to come along please contact Karen Innes Walker on email karen.walker@hospital.gov.nf or phone Health & Wellbeing office on 22687. As spaces are limited please RSVP by Monday 21 June.

Dementia Support Australia (DSA) visiting Norfolk Island – June 29th to July 2nd 2021

Dementia Support Australia (DSA) is a service led by HammondCare that brings together expertise in dementia care from across the aged care industry. It is federally funded and provides support across Australia, including the Norfolk Island Community.

DSA aims to improve the quality of life for people living with dementia and their carers. We do this by working in partnership with the person living with dementia and their care network to understand the triggers that led to changes in behaviour.

DSA offers non-pharmacological and pharmacological advice and support to clients and to their carers. DSA also provide education and training to aged care facilities and organisations that care and work with people living with dementia. DSA will also attend the Norfolk Island Health and Wellbeing Expo at Rawson Hall in September 2021.

The DSA team is a multi-disciplinary team consisting of Registered and Mental Health Nurses and Allied Health Professionals with significant experience working in dementia and aged care settings.

If you have been diagnosed with dementia and would like to speak to the team from DSA while they are visiting Norfolk Island, please make an appointment with your GP at NIHRACS GP clinic on 24134 or self-refer by contacting their 24/7 free helpline 1800 699 799.

If you are a carer of someone with dementia and would like to meet with DSA for advice while they are visiting Norfolk Island, please call the Hospital Social Worker Maria on 22091, mobile 50593 or alternatively call DSA to self-refer.

General Practice Clinic Update

Due to the current restrictions due to the risk of COVID-19 the main entry to NIHRACS is currently locked however the General Practice clinic is still open for business for all your health care needs and our emergency department is still operating. To decrease the risk of COVID-19 our processes have changed and Medicare is providing funding for telephone consultations where our Doctors can provide their services without you having to present to NIHRACS. It is a legislative requirement that GPs and Other Medical Practitioners (OMPs) working in general practice can only perform a telehealth or telephone service where they have an established clinical relationship with the patient. There are limited exemptions to this requirement. If the assessing Doctor decides you need further medical intervention they will inform you on what to do next. To book appointments please phone our reception on 24134. Please continue to help us to reduce the risks of coronavirus on our small community by taking advantage of our telehealth services.

Please call 24134 for appointments only during opening hours.

If you require medical assistance outside business hours please phone the hospital on 22091. In cases of emergency please dial 000.

GP Staffing Update

The following locum GP's will be joining our team:

Dr Geoffrey Cox 19th May – 2nd July

Dr David Gaskell 27th June – 30th July

Upcoming Clinic/Specialist Appointments

Please note that all specialist appointments will require a referral letter from your GP prior to booking an appointment.

Smoking Cessation Clinic Every Second Tuesday afternoon (no referral required)

Nutrition and Dietetics Clinic Every Thursday afternoon

Prof Gonski (Geriatrician) Every Friday afternoon

Prof Hooper (Endocrinologist) 5th – 9th July

Karen Street (Paed OT) 26th – 30th July

How long should you book your appointment for?

Most appointments with your GP only require 15 minutes. If you have multiple issues or you think they are complex and will require extensive discussion, please let our receptionist know that you would like a **long appointment**. This will ensure you have the time needed with your GP and will assist us in managing the GPs time and patient flow.

Updating Your Details

When you next visit the GP Clinic you will be asked to update your details. This is to maintain accurate information on your medical record and therefore assist with your consultation. Please arrive for your appointment 5 minutes prior to your appointment to allow time to complete. We thank you for your assistance in this important task.

Test Results and Referrals

Test results can be obtained in a booked consultation. Referrals to specialists must be made during a consultation.

Walk-ins

The GP Clinic operates on an appointment basis. Walk-ins are accepted, however there may be an unavoidable wait as priority is given to patients who have a booked appointment with their Doctor. All patients should present to reception with their current Medicare Card. At times you may experience a waiting period due to doctors tending to urgent or complex medical issues. We apologise for any inconvenience.

Skin Check Clinic

As part of a complete early detection strategy, we recommend that you see your GP once a year, or more often if you are at a higher risk of skin cancer, for a full-body, professional skin exam. To make a booking please mention 'skin check' when making the appointment – phone 24134.

Child Health Clinic has changed!

We would like to introduce Liane Jones to the position of child health nurse. Child Health Clinic will now be run from the GP Clinic every Friday, 8:30am to 4pm. This clinic is for 0 – 5 year olds and includes: Developmental Assessment, Baby Growth Checks, Emotional and Social Development, Breastfeeding Support, Settling/Sleep Support and Introducing solids.



Smoking Cessation Clinic

It's hard to stop, but with help and support, you **can** quit smoking. Quitting smoking can be one of the most difficult, yet rewarding, things a person can do. Most smokers say they would like to quit, and may have tried at least once. Some are successful the first time, but others try a number of times before they finally give up for good. It might take time, it can be hard as your body has become dependent on nicotine, but many people have succeeded in giving up smoking. Become one of them by making a quit plan

The clinic will provide a proven approach to assisting people who wish to either quit smoking or cut down. Every cigarette not smoked is doing good for smokers' health. The clinic uses a multidisciplinary approach to match individual needs.

To make a booking for the smoking cessation clinic call the GP Clinic on 24134.

Heart Health Check

Do you know what your risk of having a heart attack or stroke is? Having a regular Heart Health Check with your GP will help you better understand your risk of a heart attack or stroke.

Most importantly, your GP and nurse can support you to lower this risk. A Heart Health Check is a 20-minute check-up with your GP to assess your risk of having a heart attack or stroke.

Anyone 45 years and over or 30 years and over for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples should have a regular Heart Health Check with their doctor.

To make a booking for a heart health check please call the GP Clinic on 24134.

All patient information is treated as confidential