



### **AUGUST - SEPTEMBER 2022 EDITION**

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(cnr Ladner St) O'Connor 6163

> T: 9337 7888 F: 9337 8820



Emphysema



Vaginal thrush



Common dental issues



Malaria

YOUR NEXT APPOINTMENT:

### ENJOY THIS FREE NEWSLETTER

Please remember that decisions about medical care should be made in consultation with your health care provider so discuss with your doctor before acting on any of the information.

www.healthnews.net.au



#### PRACTICE DOCTORS

#### **Dr Peter Louie**

MBBS(WA), BSc, FRACGP Family Medicine, Acupuncture & Diving Medicals

#### Dr Wang-Jet Yee

MBBS(WA), FRACGP Family Medicine, Minor Surgery & Cosmetic Medicine

#### Dr Marcela Pantoja de Galvez

MBBS, AMC, FRACGP Family Medicine, Women's Health & Acupuncture. Speaks Spanish.

#### **Dr Sean Thomas**

MBBCh, BAO, LRCPI, LRCSI, NUI Family Medicine, Interest in Cardiology & Rheumatology

#### Dr Eric Tan

MBBS . FRACS Surgery. Speaks Mandarin.

### Dr Jonathan Lim

MBBS, DCH, FRACGP, MSpMED Family Medicine & Sports Medicine

### Dr Eashani Valemurugan

MBBS(Sri Lanka), MD(Sri Lanka), FRACGP

#### **Dr Yure Pavic**

BMedSci, MBBS, Grad Dip OHS, FRACGP, CIME, **FAFOEM** 

General & Occupational Medicine

#### Dr Dilshad Dhaliwal

MBBS, DCH, FRACGP Other languages spoken for Dr Dhaliwal: Bahasa Malaysia, Hindi, Punjabi

#### Dr Anusha Philips

MBBS, FRACGP Women's Health, Acupuncture

#### Dr Annette Camer-Pesci

MRRS

Women's Health, Childrens Health, Family Medicine & Preventive Medicine.

### PRACTICE STAFF

#### Practice Manager:

Rachael Carrall

Julie, Pat, Natasha, Tessa, Kerry &

#### Reception Staff:

Joanne, Ioli, Ada, Rosa, Cristina, Karen, Kay, Louisa, Dianne & Teyah

#### SURGERY HOURS

Monday to Friday 7am - 7pm Saturday 8am - 1pm

#### BILLING

• Private Practice

• Standard Appointments \$80 with a rebate of \$39.75 Long Consultations \$130 with a rebate of \$76.95 • Weekend Consultations \$85 with a rebate of \$39.75

- Bulk-Bill all Concession Card Holders and Under 16 year old's
- Bulk Billing Available on request please talk to one of our friendly receptionists.

#### **• AFTER HOURS & EMERGENCY**

The Practice provides 24 hour care for patients together with an Accredited Locum Service, who will provide you with home visits.

Emergency......000 Locum Service ...... 1300 644 483 SJOG Murdoch......9366 1111 Fiona Stanley Hospital ..... 6152 2222



HotDoc

#### ONLINE APPOINTMENT BOOKINGS

### Please add or Download the App today

South Street Medical Centre offers online appointment bookings from our website, via the HotDoc application.

Visit www.southstreetmedicalcentre.com.au and click on the "book online" button.

#### PROACTIVE SKIN CHECKS AVAILABLE AT SSMC

Performed by Dr Peter Louie. Now fully bulk billing

### OCCMEDIC CORPORATE & **INDUSTRIAL HEALTH AT SSMC**



Preforming Workers Compensations, Motor Vehicle Claims and Pre **Employment Medicals.** 

Same day appointments available - Performed by Dr Yure Pavic -Occupational Physician

#### OTHER SERVICES AVAILABLE AT SSMC INCLUDE

 Physiotherapy • Vision Care

Chiropractor

Pathology

Active Podiatry

**Email Communication.** Email is not a secure form of communication and we do not use this to communicate personal information to patients without their consent. Whilst we make every effort to keep your information secure it is important for patients to be aware of the risks associated with electronic communication, in that the information could potentially be comprised and accessed by someone other than the intended recipient. Patients must be aware that any communication they direct to the surgery via email is also NOT secure and confidentially cannot be guaranteed. Patients communicating through email do so at their own risk.

If you do choose to contact the surgery via email this will be considered as patient consent to reply via email.

We endeavour to reply to all emails within 2 working business days. Our emails are checked on a regular basis, however they are not constantly monitored. If you have an issue that requires urgent attention,

we request that you contact the practice via telephone on 9337 7888.

# **Emphysema**

Emphysema is a form of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

It can be due to a genetic condition such as alpha-1-antitrypsin deficiency. However, most cases are related to smoking or long-term exposure to dust or pollutants which damage the air sacs in the lungs. This is where oxygen enters the bloodstream. The symptoms develop slowly, generally over many years, and include shortness of breath, fatigue, cough and phlegm and recurrent chest infections. In more advanced cases, there can be cyanosis (a blue colouration) of the skin.

There is no cure for emphysema, but it is largely preventable. The most important one being not smoking or quitting if you do smoke. Talk to your doctor about ways to achieve this. Even if you have failed before, it does not matter. Some people need multiple attempts before finally getting off cigarettes.

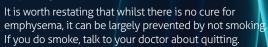
Diagnosis is based on the history and examination of the chest. You will likely be referred for imaging of the chest (x-ray or CT scan) and lung function testing. Complications include pneumonia and collapsing of the lung.

Treatment is designed to minimise symptoms. This includes inhalers to widen airways and reduce sputum, lung rehabilitation programs, quitting smoking, exercise to increase lung capacity (this needs to be gentle), and in advanced cases, oxygen may be helpful. It is important to have an annual flu

vaccination and to see your doctor at the first sign of any respiratory infection.



More info 🕥







# Vaginal thrush

Thrush is caused by the fungus Candida Albicans. Whilst it is part of the normal vaginal flora and sits there, causing no problems, in certain circumstances, it can multiply, leading to an overgrowth and typical thrush.

It is estimated that 75% of women will experience thrush at some stage, whilst some get it frequently.

Risk factors include being on an antibiotic, wearing tight-fitting clothes like jeans, and wearing synthetic underwear. The contraceptive pill can also be a risk factor. Conversely, preventative factors include wearing cotton underwear and using a probiotic.

Symptoms are a thick white discharge from the vagina, itchiness and redness at the vagina and vulva and sometimes burning with passing urine and pain with intercourse.

Many women self-diagnose and seek treatments without prescription. Whilst this can work, it is important to remember that the symptoms are not always typical or specific to thrush. If there is a possibility of having a sexually transmitted infection (STI), it is vital to see your doctor and have the necessary tests done.

Treatment for thrush is with anti-fungal creams or pessaries for between one and seven days. There are also anti-fungal tablets, which can be taken orally. Some of these are available without a prescription.

Self-help treatments like yoghurt, vinegar, tea tree oil and garlic are popular but are of questionable benefit and can cause irritation.

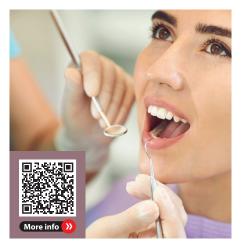
If symptoms do not resolve with over-the-counter treatment or if you have recurrent thrush, it is important to see your doctor.

## Common dental issues

Getting a tooth knocked out is painful and is also a dental emergency.

A permanent tooth that can be re-implanted within 30 minutes has the highest chance of success. Baby teeth are not re-implanted. Where a tooth has been knocked out -touch only the crown (top part) of the tooth, not the root. Rinse the tooth carefully and only if necessary. Do not scrub or scrape, and do not apply alcohol. If possible, put the tooth in its socket but don't force it. Control any bleeding with sterile gauze and apply a cold compress to reduce swelling.

Plaque builds up on the teeth daily, damaging the tooth enamel. Gum disease can arise from poor dental hygiene. This



can lead to infection and, in severe cases, teeth falling out. If mouth bacteria enter the bloodstream, it can lead to a more serious infection.

Poor dental hygiene has been associated with conditions like diabetes, Alzheimer's and some forms of cancer, although the causative mechanism has not been determined.

Take good care of your teeth by brushing twice daily and flossing. Minimise sugary food as these increase tooth decay. Keep an eye on your mouth for signs of any problem, such as sores not healing or irritated gums and have an annual checkup with your dentist.

## Malaria

With borders opened up, travel is on the agenda again for many - visiting family and friends and for a holiday. With this comes the potential for infections.

Mainland Australia is malaria-free, although found on the Torres Strait Islands. Malaria is a potentially fatal infection caused by a parasite transmitted by mosquito bites. Five types of parasites (called plasmodium) cause the infection. Travellers to tropical and sub-tropical countries are at risk. Typical symptoms include fever, chills, headaches, sweats, nausea, vomiting, and joint pains. These start 7-14 days after being bitten. The fever is often intermittent.

Diagnosis is based on history and blood tests. The parasite may be seen under the microscope, although more than one sample may be needed. Treatment is with specific anti-malarial medication, and some may require hospitalisation. In third-world countries, the infection is often fatal, whereas, in Australia, treatment generally

means this is not the case.

The key is prevention. Talk to your doctor before you travel. Certain areas are classed as "malarial zones". You may be recommended preventative medication. Other measures include avoiding being outside at dusk and wearing loosefitting long-sleeved shirts and long pants outdoors. The use of mosquito repellents is important. Stay and sleep in screened or air-conditioned rooms. Avoid swamps and other areas where mosquitos are more likely to be found.

If you become unwell after returning from travel, see your doctor promptly. Take out travel insurance as if you become unwell overseas, you may need treatment before return which can be expensive.





## Iron intake for vegetarians

Iron deficiency is a potential problem for those on a vegetarian or vegan diet. This is particularly the case for women whose daily iron requirements (especially in reproductive years) are greater than for men.

Iron is essential for red blood cells, which carry oxygen around the body. Iron deficiency leads to anaemia, which in turn can cause fatigue, headache and weakness.

There are two forms of dietary iron in food, haem and non-haem. The former is more easily absorbed and makes up 40% of iron in animal-based foods. Eggs, vegetables, and other foods have more non-haem iron, which is less readily absorbed.

However, you can include plenty of foods in a vegetarian diet that have iron. These include tofu, legumes (lentils, kidney beans), broccoli, Asian greens, spinach, kale, cabbage, nuts

(especially cashews and almonds), dried fruits (especially apricots) and seeds (like sunflower seeds and tahini).

Iron absorption is enhanced by vitamin C, so combining the above foods like citrus fruits, kiwi fruit, tomatoes, or capsicum helps. Spinach cabbage and broccoli are good sources of both.

If you have any concerns about iron levels, talk to your GP. You may need blood tests to assess your levels. Despite eating foods with iron, you may need a supplement. These come in both liquid and tablet form. Some who are severely iron deficient may need an infusion of iron into a vein.



### PORK & GINGER DUMPLINGS

#### Ingredients

- 2 x 3cm pieces of ginger
- 3 spring onions plus extra for garnish
- 1/4 cup soy sauce plus extra for serving
- 1 ½ tbsp sesame oil
- 1 tsp caster sugar
- 300g pork mince
- 275g of your favourite dumpling wrappers
- 2 tbsp peanut oil
- 1 long red chilli

#### Method

- Peel, then finely grate 1 piece of ginger into a large bowl. Thinly slice onions, add half to ginger and reserve remaining half for stir-fry. Add 2 tablespoons soy sauce, 1 tablespoon sesame oil, sugar and pork to ginger mixture and combine.
- Place 20 dumpling wrappers on a work surface. Top each with 2 teaspoons pork mixture. Run a wet finger around edge of wrappers, fold in half, then press edges together firmly to seal. Position dumplings so the join is on top. Crimp join, if desired.
- 3. Heat 1 tablespoon peanut oil in a frying pan over medium–high heat. Pack dumplings in pan. Cook for 5 minutes. Add 125ml (1/2 cup) water and cover. Reduce heat to medium and cook for 10 minutes. Uncover and, if necessary, cook for a further 3 minutes or until water has evaporated.
- 4. Serve dumplings hot with remaining spring onion and soy sauce

5	3			7				
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# • SPECIAL PRACTICE NOTES Results.

These are best discussed in a followup consultation to ensure proper medical care, review of condition and re-examination. Results over the phone are not recommended because of lack of confidentiality, inability to reassess condition and the potential for misunderstanding. **Referrals.** 

Doctors in this practice are competent at handling common health problems. When necessary, they can refer you for further investigation. You can discuss this openly with your doctor.

#### Phone Calls.

Due to a lack of confidentiality, the inability to assess the physical condition and the potential for misunderstanding, patients are discouraged from phoning the surgery to speak to the Doctor. It is preferable that an appointment be made with your preferred Doctor. However, queries may be dealt with by leaving a message explaining your request with the reception staff, who will pass this onto the Doctor/Nurse for further action. *Reminder System.* 

Our practice is committed to preventative care. Your doctor will seek your permission to be included in our reminder system. We may issue you with a reminder notice from time to time offering you preventative health services appropriate to your care. If you do not wish to be part of this system please let your doctor or the receptionist know. We encourage self-responsibility in your health. *Complaints/Suggestions.* 

These may either be placed in the suggestion box in the reception area, or directed to Health & Disability Services Complaints Office (HADSCO). GPO Box B61, Perth 6838, Tel 9323 0600.

# Your medical record is a confidential document.

It is the policy of this practice to maintain security of personal health information at all times and to ensure that this information is only available to authorised members of staff. We abide by the 10 National Privacy Principles available at: www.privacy.gov.au/health/index. html

This practice has a no smoking policy.