

Welcome Dr Berlinda Png

We are delighted to announce Dr Berlinda Png is joining our dedicated team of GPs in July. Berlinda is an Irish-Australian trained doctor with broad medical experience having worked in both Ireland and Australia for over ten years. She was born in Singapore and initially completed her Bachelor of Arts (Economics and Political Science) from the National University of Singapore in 2000.

She graduated with honours from The Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland in 2007 and is a Fellow of the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (FRACGP).

Prior to General Practice, Berlinda spent many years working in Emergency Medicine in Westmead Hospital. She has experience and training in paediatrics, as she holds a Diploma in Child Health from University of Sydney (2015).

She also has a special interest in Palliative Care and Skin Cancer Medicine and has pursued a Clinical Diploma in Palliative Medicine in Liverpool Hospital (2014) and Diploma in Skin Cancer Medicine from the Bond University (2018).

Berlinda started working in general practice in 2015 in Bathurst and completed her FRACGP in 2017. Having trained and worked in rural NSW, she has significant experience with chronic health issues, caring for older patients, as well as women's and children's health.

"I really enjoy general practice because of its diversity, challenges, and the opportunity to care for different generations," she said.

Berlinda can perform minor skin surgery, biopsies, as well as insertion and removal of Implanon Rods. She also has an interest in medical education and is an accredited GP supervisor, involved in the teaching and supervision of GP registrars. She is also a RACGP OSCE examiner.

In her spare time, Berlinda enjoys spending time with her husband and 4 girls, cooking, and walking.



Have You Had Your Flu Vaccine?

Last year, the spread of influenza was minimised by social distancing and other Covid-safe practices. Now these restrictions have eased we are seeing more patients with flu-like symptoms in our dedicated respiratory clinic.

The winter flu season usually peaks in August and optimal protection from the vaccine is in the first three to four months. Book your flu vaccine online with one of our Practice Nurses:

- Alexandria Pritchard
- Victoria Wright
- Sofia Fairbrother.

You can also request your flu vaccine at your next GP visit.

NOTE: A two week gap is recommended between the flu and COVID 19 vaccines.





We are proud to provide COVID-19 vaccines as part of the national roll-out program. Currently we can offer first and second doses of the Astra-Zeneca vaccine to adults over 50 years.

When am I eligible to get my vaccine?

The National Roll-out Strategy details the phases in which vaccines will be available to priority population groups. You can check which group you will fall into via the **COVID-19 Vaccine Eligibility checker**.

Booking System

If possible, we prefer you to book online as this automates the consent process, and reminders for the second vaccine. If you are unable to book online, please contact reception on 42844622.

Training of staff

All GPs and nurses at Bulli Medical Practice, and our administrative team have undertaken online training modules to ensure competence in:

- Handling and administering the COVID-19 vaccine
- Vaccine storage
- Communication and documentation around patient informed consent and record keeping
- Processes to undertake in the unlikely possibility of an adverse event.

Evidence of Vaccination

Once you have had your vaccinations, we will report to the Australian Immunisation Register (AIR). You will then be able to access your immunisation history through your Medicare Online account, the Medicare Express Plus app, myGov or My Health Record. We can also provide paper-based copies if required.

What about my Flu Vaccination?

It is recommended not to schedule and administer the influenza and COVID-19 vaccine on the same day. The preferred minimum timeframe between these vaccines is 14 days.



Mates Against Melanoma

Congratulations to Drs Michael Hanson and Jeff Hall who participated in Australian National Skin Check Day (ANSCD) and won a brand new dermascope for their efforts. The dermascope was presented by Jason Sprott (pictured below middle), Director and Founder of **Mates Against Melanoma**.



GP Availability Winter 2021

The table (below) is a guide to which doctor works on which days. This may help when scheduling your next appointment. Note:

The roster changes regularly and doctors take holidays from time to time. Your best guide to availability is via online booking (via our website) or call us on 4284 4622. Please note:

- Dr Michael Hanson works alternate Mondays and Fridays every second week
- Dr Jeffrey Hall works Mondays every second week
- Dr Anna Putnis works alternate Thursdays and Fridays every second week
- Dr Saroja Gunasekera is returning to face-to-face consultations from Tuesday 1st June
- Doctors alternate on Saturdays as part of a roster. Please check via Facebook or ask at reception.

Fees Policy

Bulli Medical Practice is not a bulk billing practice. It is our policy that payment for consultation is made at the time of your appointment.

Please see our website or ask at reception for our full fee schedule. The out of pocket expense for a standard Level B consultation (15 minutes) is \$45.25.

We have EFTPOS facilities (debit and credit card: Visa & Mastercard but NOT American Express).

Medicare rebates will be sent online directly to Medicare and you will receive your rebate via direct deposit into your nominated bank account.

If payment cannot be made on the day, an account can be issued incurring an administration fee of \$15 which is not Medicare rebatable.

Privacy & Medical Records

Your medical record is a confidential document.

It is the policy of the 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.

The Practice adheres to the national privacy principles. A copy of our privacy policy is available at reception and on our website.

Bulli Medical Practice

74 Park Road, Bulli NSW 2516

Monday to Friday 8am - 6pm

Saturdays 8am - 12 noon

Closed Sundays.

If you need to see a doctor outside of hours, call:

Wollongong Radio Doctors 4228 5522
or the GP Helpline 1800 022 222.

In an emergency call 000.

New patients always welcome!

Book online today:

**bullimedicalpractice.com.au
or call 4284 4622.**

 **Bullimedicalpractice**

Other Practice News

- Welcome Kiara Leslie and Natasha Katsoudas to our administration team.
- Farewell to Alessandra who leaves us in June to take up a graduate position in Accounting.
- Farewell to Dr Emily O'Donnell who leaves us at the end of July at the completion of her registrar term. We wish her all the best in her career as a GP, and with her new baby!
- Welcome Dr Berlinda Png who joins us in July. Please read more about Berlinda in our cover story.

Reminders, Recalls & Results

Please telephone the Practice after 10am weekdays to find out the results of any tests that have been ordered by our doctors.

Patients that require immediate action in relation to test results will be contacted by the Practice to arrange a consultation so that they can discuss the test results with a doctor.

We are committed to providing preventative health care and participate in government reminder systems and registers.

We offer a SMS reminder system. If you would like to receive SMS reminders please inform reception and ensure they have your current mobile telephone number. If you do not wish to be a part of this system, please notify reception.

Feedback & Continuous Improvement

We value your feedback and encourage you to complete a general feedback form (which you can deposit in the secure box at reception) or by emailing feedback@bullimedicalpractice.com.au.

We endeavour to respond to your suggestions as soon as possible and to continuously improve our service. From time to time we might also ask you to complete a confidential evaluation as part of AGPAL accreditation.

If you are unhappy with any aspect of the care that you receive then please let us know. Talk to either your doctor or reception staff and we will try our best to help. We believe problems are best resolved within the Practice as this helps us to continuously improve.

If however, the problem is not resolved, you may wish to contact the NSW state government authority for dealing with medical complaints.

The address is:

Health Care Complaints Commission
Locked Bag 18, Strawberry Hills NSW 2012.