



## Welcome to SEEK-B

Thank you for your interest in SEEK-B. Please see below some general information and FAQ's. If you would like to discuss further please do not hesitate to contact Isabelle Purcell ([Isabelle.Purcell@ashm.org.au](mailto:Isabelle.Purcell@ashm.org.au) | 0400431177).

### What is SEEK –B?

SEEK –B is a pilot Hepatitis B Case Finding and Clinical Auditing project to be implemented nationally in the primary care sector. Through a series of four supported quality improvement activities (modules), SEEK – B is intended to work with practices to increase testing of hepatitis B, ensure appropriate linkage to care has occurred and support prevention. The project goal for SEEK- B is to increase the number of people identified for screening, testing, linked to care, and management for hepatitis B in primary care, thereby reducing the prevalence and mortality rates of hepatitis B in Australia.

### How many pilot sites will there be?

It is estimated the pilot project will accommodate up to ten pilot sites nationally.

### What is the focus of the modules? Do clinics have to do them all?

Each of the modules has a different focus.

1. **Data cleaning and completeness.** This module is an introductory module, allowing time for data cleanup and coding, allowing for ongoing quality improvement activities and sustainable care. The data you extract can only be as good as the data entered with up to date and comprehensive data being an essential starting point for quality improvement activities.
2. **Identifying patients for testing.** This module focuses on auditing patients with risk factors for hepatitis B and following up any testing required.
3. **Linkage to care.** This module focuses on identifying patients who have a confirmed hepatitis B diagnosis and reviewing where and how they are accessing care, supporting this where required.
4. **Prevention for specific populations.** Includes audit and recall of patients how are at high risk of adverse outcomes from hepatitis B including those who are immunosuppressed, on dialysis, who are pregnant etc.

Clinics are welcome to do one, a selection or all of the modules. It is strongly suggested that clinics who have not done any hepatitis B case finding and clinical auditing work previous complete module one and for all clinics to discuss their options with the projects practice nurse advisor. Practices should complete the chosen modules in chronological order.

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## How long does each module take? What is the time commitment?

To align with PIP QI cycles it is anticipated that each module will take approximately three months to complete with all four modules being able to be completed in a 12month period. Some smaller modules may be shorter however three months will be available. There is flexibility with this and clinics can work with the projects practice nurse advisor to establish a timeline that works for them. Individual time commitment varies depending on the clinic and which staff members are involved, however an approximate time of 8-10hrs per module is anticipated.

## What would my clinic and I have to do as part of SEEK –B?

Each module is primarily self-directed via an online learning module (OLM) that takes clinics through each step, but is also supported by a practice nurse advisor. The OLM for each module consists of instructions for submitting baseline and evaluation data, step by step guides for using practice software and data extraction software to progress the goals of the module and other relevant resources. For each module we have suggested database searches and practice processes you may like to implement within your practice. You are welcome to either accept these as they are or modify them to suit your practice.

We also provide a PDSA (Plan, Do, Study, Act) guide for each module that you can accept in its current form or modify to suit your practice.

Actions for each module may include:

- *Access to education, training, and resources*
- *Using software to identify relevant patients*
- *A clinical audit gathers data to analyse improvements, using a combination of the practice's clinical software, a data extraction tool, and manual recording by clinicians.*
- *Recall and clinical follow-up of identified patients.*
- *Submission of non-identified data to ASHM*

## Does everyone in my practice need to be involved?

We understand that it may not be practical for all staff members to be involved with projects such as SEEK- B. Instead, we suggest that clinics review the skills and tasks required and establish a team that encompasses these.

Skills required and tasks include:

- *Project oversight*
- *Liaison with ASHM*

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- *Community based linkage and advocacy to improve engagement in care*
- *Data searches and developing audit lists*
- *Reviewing patient files and developing recall lists/adding actions to individual files*
- *Completing recall*
- *Clinical follow up.*

### **Does it matter which practice and data extraction software my clinic uses?**

Usually not, SEEK –B resources and modules have been developed to accommodate use of Best Practice, Medical Director, PenCat, POLAR and Primary Sense. If you use a program outside of these, please contact us to discuss.

Note: Communicare resources are in progress however the timeline for completion is to be confirmed. If you use Communicare and are interested in participating, please contact us for further information and to discuss.

### **Will SEEK – B contribute towards my CPD requirements?**

Yes, SEEK-B is in the process of being accredited with RACGP for MO hours and ACCRM. Support for nurses to claim CPD hours such as certificates can be provided.

### **Is remuneration available for participation?**

Yes, a financial reimbursement of \$1000 per module (up to \$4000 total – depending on number of modules completed) will be provided to participating practices.

Further, SEEK B can be used as a QI project as part of the Practice Incentives Program Quality Improvement (PIP QI) incentive. This is contingent on practices being eligible for the PIP program and submitting the PIP eligible data set to your local PHN. For more information on this program, see [here](#). Please contact your PHN for support accessing this incentive.

Resources have been developed to support practices to maximise their billing in this space as a result of participation in the pilot.

### **What are the next steps if my clinic is interested in participating?**

Please complete an expression of interest [here](#).

Please note there are limited spots in the pilot project and we may not be able to accommodate all clinics who submit and EOI.

We will contact you with an outcome and if selected we will share a terms of reference and ask that you return the signed document to us. We will then arrange a meeting with a practice nurse advisor who will introduce you to the modules.

### **How are pilot sites selected from those who submit an EOI?**

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A set of criteria that reflects the diversity of pilot sites across the size of clinics, location (metro/regional, states and territories and areas of higher/lower prevalence), caseloads and types of clinics and with and without s100 prescribers will be used to select 5-10 clinics. If multiple clinics fit the same criteria, we will base the decision on where we received the EOI from first. As this pilot is intended to establish learnings and best approaches to scale up, diversity in the clinics involved is a key priority.

### **What data would we need to submit and how is this used and stored?**

All data to be submitted as part of project evaluation is de-identified and aggregated data. It will be submitted through Survey Monkey. All information you provide will remain confidential and be managed in accordance with the Privacy Act 1988 (Cth) and the Australian Privacy Principles. Aggregate de-identified findings may be used by ASHM for project evaluation and quality improvement, or reported to project funders, in sector conferences and/or through other channels.

### **Are there hepatitis B clinical resources and education available?**

Yes, ASHM is here to support with resources and education both as part of SEEK-B and more generally.

ASHM run a variety of free sexual health, HIV and viral hepatitis courses for state specific and national audiences. For more information and to register see [here](#).

There are also a series of clinical resources available [here](#).

Specific resources and links to relevant information are included as part of the SEEK-B project.

### **What support is available to me and my clinic throughout the project?**

SEEK-B has a dedicated practice nurse advisor available for support throughout the project. Accepted pilot sites will receive their contact details. We will also advise your PHN that you are participating in the project, and they will be available to assist with any data extraction software enquiries.

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