

Introducing General Practice North (GP North)

The original Division of General Practice, Northern Tasmania also known as **GP North** was established in 1992, as one of over 100 General Practice Divisions across Australia.

In 2011 the Australian government established independent Primary Health Care Organisations (PHCOs) called 'Medicare Locals'. Many Divisions of General Practice subsequently applied to become Medicare Locals. However GP North at that stage had considerable assets and obligations having invested in infrastructure supporting General Practice in identified areas of need including St Helens and Scottsdale so it was decided to keep GP North as a separate entity and use the funds GP North had generated (and would continue to generate) to support general practitioners in the 0363 telephone area in Tasmania.

A constitution was drawn up for General Practice Northern Tasmania Incorporated and a committee of four GPs elected to oversee the governance of the organisation according to that constitution. Today the aims of GP North remain similar to those of the original GP North in focussing on Education, Resources, Support, Advocacy and Collegiality for GPs and GP Registrars working primarily in family general practice in northern Tasmania.

General Practice North (GPN) Committee for 2026:

Dr Anne Wilson: Chair

Dr Donald Rose: Treasurer

Dr Magnus Agomuo: Committee Member

Dr Jehan Phillips: Committee Member

GPN Administration Support:

GPN Administration Manager and Property Manager: Mrs Kelly Gregory

GPN Financial Controller, Public Officer and Website Editor: Mrs Alison Clifford

GPN Executive Adviser: Mr Phil Edmondson

Membership of General Practice North is currently available (and free) by self-nomination for GPs and GP Registrars working primarily in General Practice in 0363 area code and GPs retired from General Practice in northern Tasmania who maintain an interest in GP North. To become a member or update your contact details complete an application form or confirmation of membership form (download from the website gpnorth.org.au) with your preferred contact details so we can then email you directly about GPN activities (rather than relying on emails sent to your practice manager).

GP North activities continuing to be funded by GP North in 2026 include (but not limited to):

- pharmacotherapeutic education sessions as general practice visits prepared and presented by Miss Danielle Truscott (General Practice Consultant Pharmacist and Educator) on medication topics important for patient care as identified by GPs
- group online subscription to The Women's Pregnancy and Breastfeeding Guide for General Practices in northern Tasmania
- subsidising the cost of framing the FRACGP or FACRRM certificate for newly fellowed GP Registrars working in northern Tasmania
- providing RATs to GPN members depending on supply/demand

The GP North 2026 AGM and end of year function will be held in October or November. This is usually a great opportunity to catch up with GP colleagues, reflect on GP North's year's work and plan for the next year. All GP North members welcome. Details TBA.

For further information about GPN activities talk to a GPN Committee Member, and/or email the GPN Committee via chairgeneralpracticenorth@gmail.com or contact GPN Administration Manager by email to officegpnorth@gmail.com or text 0459 663 553.