Introducing GP to GP Colleague Referral Providers

What are GP to GP referrals?

The skills, experience, and interests of general practitioners (GPs) vary greatly. Some general practitioners develop areas of expertise, or have access to specialised equipment that could be of particular benefit to other GPs and their patients. Some GPs may be willing to see patients, referred from other practitioners, for specific conditions or procedures as long as there are clear guidelines for clinicians and patients.

Some examples of areas of expertise (please see the attached expression of interest for a more comprehensive list), which a patient might be referred to another GP for:

- Inserting an IUD, Mirena, or other intra-Uterine devices.
- Removal of skin lesions.
- IV iron infusion.

How does it work?

GP to GP referrals are based on a relationship of trust and confidence that develops between both doctors. A framework has been developed to help form these relationships and promote clear guidelines relating to:

- Creating and sending referrals, including utilising the relevant HealthPathway.
- Receiving and processing referrals in a timely manner.
- Clearly defining the scope of the consultation.
- Investigations, on-referral and recall.
- Closing the referral loop.
- Concerns about referral or service quality.

This framework is designed to provide specific treatment to a patient for a specific condition. Patients will receive information about this process, including a clear indication that these referrals are not an opportunity to change practices and enrol with the GP they are referred to. Feedback to improve this framework and associated protocols is always welcome via the HealthPathways website.

How to register?

If you are interested in participating in the GP can you please complete the attached form and email to FNQHealthPathways@health.qld.gov.au or fax to 07 4226 3040.

For further information regarding GP to GP referrals, contact Gordon Mayne, FNQ HealthPathways Coordinator, phone 4226 5624 or via email to FNQHealthPathways@health.qld.gov.au.