



## OCTOBER-NOVEMBER 2023 EDITION

**FREE TO TAKE HOME!**



Memory Loss



Urinary Incontinence



How to manage stress



Drug-induced liver injury

### ● PRACTICE DOCTORS

#### Dr Ivan Jansz

MBBS, Dip RACOG, DA(UK), FRACGP  
Family General Practice, Anaesthetics, Shared Care  
Obstetrics, Skin problems, General Medicine, Pain  
Management

#### Dr Darryn Rennie

MBBS, FRACGP, DipACSCM  
General Family Medicine, Skin Cancer, Children's  
Health

#### Dr Kate Harding

BM(UK)DO, FRNZCGP, FRACGP  
General Family Medicine

#### Dr Andrew Kirke

MBBS, FACRRM, FRACGP, DRANZCOG, DTMH  
Family General Practice

#### Dr Yien Peng Chin

MBBS, FRACGP, DipChildHealth  
General Family Medicine, Children's Health

#### Dr Narelle Rodsjo

MBBS, FRACGP  
Family medicine, Women's and Children's Health,  
Musculoskeletal and Sporting Injuries

#### Dr Denise (Dee) Arnold

MBBS, FRACGP, Diploma of Sport & Exercise  
General Practice with special interest in Women's  
and Paediatric Medicine as well as Sports and  
Musculoskeletal Medicine.

#### Dr Aisling Ni Bhroin

MB BCh, FRACGP  
General Family Medicine

*The practice doctors are experienced  
in the broad range of general practice  
problems and the treatment of all age  
groups.*

### ● PRACTICE STAFF

**Practice Manager:** Karen Hudson

**Nurses:** Rhona Morrison (RN, RM),  
Lucy Webb-Martin (RN)

**Receptionists:** Mandy, Claire, Fernanda,  
Alli & Lauren

### ● SURGERY HOURS

**Monday**.....7.00am-5.00pm

**Tuesday - Friday**.....8.30am-5.00pm

**Saturday**.....8.30am-11.30am

### ● AFTER HOURS & EMERGENCY

Dalyellup Family Medical Centre provides  
after hours care within the practice.

Please phone **9795 6422** for the on-call  
number, or attend Bunbury Regional  
Hospital Emergency Department **9722  
1000**.

A/H GP helpline **1800 022 222**.

### ● BILLING ARRANGEMENTS

Private patients will pay a gap beyond the Medicare refund. This varies  
according to the complexity of service or if a procedure is performed.

We expect the account to be settled at the time of consultation. Gap  
payments may be allowed in consultation with the Doctor. Payment can be  
made by cash, cheque, credit card or EFTPOS. Please bring your Medicare  
card and any concession cards to your appointment.

We may bulk bill children under 6yrs and routine immunisations. All other  
appointments will be charged an out of pocket expense.

A fee will apply for all procedural work, Saturday and evening surgery  
appointments.

**Repeat Prescriptions** may be issued at times but will attract a fee if there is  
no consultation.

### ● APPOINTMENTS

**Consultation is by appointment.** Urgent cases will be seen by an available  
doctor on the day.

**Appointment Bookings.** Appointments can be made online by going to  
[www.dfmc.com.au](http://www.dfmc.com.au) or by calling the Practice on **9795 6422**.

**Booking a long appointment.** If you want an insurance medical, review of a  
complex health problem, counselling for emotional difficulties, or a second  
opinion, please book a longer appointment. This may involve a longer wait  
but your problem will get the attention it deserves. Please bring relevant  
letters and test results from other doctors.

It may not always be possible to see additional family members if only a  
single appointment has been made.

**Home Visits.** Your request for a home visit will be decided on in discussion  
with the doctor.

**Results.** All results are reviewed as soon as possible by the doctor. You may  
access relevant comments regarding your results by contacting the Surgery.

**Telehealth and phone consultations are currently available during the  
COVID crisis.**

### ● SPECIAL PRACTICE NOTES

**Dr Jansz** has admitting rights to St John of God Hospital, Bunbury.

**Referrals.** Doctors in this practice are competent at handling all the  
common health problems. When necessary, they are able to draw on  
opinion from Specialists, and if need be, refer you for further investigation.  
You can discuss this openly with your doctor.

**Telephoning your doctor.** Although most problems are best dealt with in  
consultation, a doctor will always be available during normal surgery hours  
for emergency advice. Our staff are experienced in helping you decide  
whether the matter requires an appointment, a return phone call from the  
practice, or urgent advice.

**Patient Feedback.** We welcome your comments or suggestions. Please feel  
free to talk to your GP or the Practice Manager regarding any issues. If you  
prefer, you can contact Health and Disability Services Complaints Office on  
1800 813 583.

**Patient Privacy.** This practice protects your personal health information  
to ensure it is only available to authorised staff members for the intended  
purposes and to comply with the Privacy Act. To obtain a copy of our Privacy  
Statement or your medical records, please ask.

### 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](http://www.healthnews.net.au)

# Memory Loss

What worries most people about getting older is the prospect of memory loss. The good news is that while the total number of people with dementia is increasing, the percentage of the population is declining. Work over the last three decades shows that as each cohort gets older, fewer people are being diagnosed with dementia.

There are a number of causes. Alzheimer's Disease is the most common. Risk factors include family history, past trauma to the head (especially repeated concussions), smoking and alcohol consumption to excess. The condition generally comes on slowly. It is worth noting that, occasionally, forgetting where you put your keys is not the first sign. Diagnosis is largely on assessing mental state through a questionnaire. A CT or MRI scan may be done to assess the brain. Certain changes are typically seen in Alzheimer's.

Blood tests are done to rule out treatable conditions that can impact memory (e.g., underactive thyroid, certain infections, kidney or liver diseases). Any underlying secondary cause can be treated accordingly. There is no treatment as such for Alzheimer's. Medications available only slow progression and not always even that. The key is practical support for the individual and carers. Talk to your GP about available services and getting adequate support.

According to the WHO, certain lifestyle factors can reduce the chances of memory loss. Physical exercise, adequate sleep, a sensible diet keeping the brain active, avoiding smoking and consuming only moderate alcohol, and controlling blood pressure and blood sugar all help.



More info »

## Urinary Incontinence: Tips to manage the problem

The inability to control one's bladder is a silent problem; people do not talk about it. Yet it affects an estimated 13% of Australians, including 37% of women.

Stress incontinence is when urine leaks in relation to movement or any pressure in the pelvis. Urge incontinence is when you need to go quickly to the toilet on feeling the need. Few raise the issue with their GP due to either embarrassment, a belief that it is "a normal part of life", or that nothing can be done.

It is not a normal part of aging; you do not need to be embarrassed, and there are ways to prevent and manage it.

Risk factors include pregnancy, obesity, recurrent urinary infections, certain types of surgery (e.g. prostate), constipation and some medications. Step one is to raise it with your GP. Some tests may need to be done to rule out secondary (e.g. diabetes) medical causes. You may require referral to a urologist and/or be sent for urodynamic testing (testing the bladder function).

General preventative tips include spreading fluid intake (minimizing alcohol and caffeine) throughout the day, exercising regularly, and maintaining a healthy weight.

For women after childbirth, pelvic floor exercises are critical. Talk to your GP or physio about this. Bladder training is very effective once any secondary causes are excluded or treated. Programs are run through Continence Australia and some physiotherapists. In the short term, planning your day is helpful. There is also a range of products to get around the problem.

The first step is the most important- raise it with your GP.



More info »



# How to manage stress in a busy life

The last few years have been highly stressful for many people. Stress is regarded as the scourge of the 21st century. Everyone feels stressed at some stage. Relationships, money and work, are consistently shown in polling to be the big three.

Our body reacts to stress today like it did in caveman days. It goes into fight or flight mode by releasing hormones like adrenalin and cortisol, which were very helpful when the threat had a physical solution and would be over soon (for better or worse). It is not so helpful with the type of stressors we face today.

However, there is much we can do to manage stress. Regular exercise is a great stress beater. It can be as simple as going for a walk. Listening to calming music and doing slow, deep breathing or guided meditations can be helpful. There are many apps that are designed to help people deal with stress, and many are free. Drinking herbal tea helps some people, as does keeping a journal or writing things down. Drink mainly water and do not drink alcohol to excess. Try to minimise sugar in your diet. Taking a short break, if possible, may help.

Ultimately, dealing with what stresses you is the key. Remember, you don't always have to do this alone. For many, chatting with your GP or a counsellor can be beneficial, as can talking with trusted friends or family. Others may see solutions that you don't.

Stress can lead to mental health problems, so see your GP if you have any concerns.



## Drug-induced liver injury

The liver can be injured by many prescriptions, over-the-counter and herbal medications, as well as some dietary supplements. Usually, the damage is mild and reversible.

However, drug-induced liver damage accounts for 20% of liver transplants for liver failure in Australia.

There may be no symptoms. You may experience nausea, abdominal pain, itching or jaundice (yellowing of the skin). Blood tests will show the extent to which the liver has been affected.

It is vital to disclose to your doctor what medications you have been taking, including any non-prescription medications, supplements and herbal formulations. Sometimes, the combination is the problem. People with pre-existing liver disease are at greater risk, as are those with fatty liver, cirrhosis or alcohol-related liver damage.

Any new symptoms commencing after you start a new medication should be reported to your doctor. Though most side effects of medications are mild and self-limiting, not all are.

You may require testing, need to cease the medication and be advised to avoid that medication in the future. Some may require treatment with steroids.



## Gestational Diabetes

Gestational Diabetes is a condition where women without previously diagnosed diabetes have raised blood glucose (sugar) during pregnancy. Some are thought to represent previously undetected cases of type 2 diabetes. It is most common in the third trimester and affects an estimated eight to ten per cent of pregnancies.

There are generally no symptoms. It is diagnosed via a blood glucose tolerance test (GTT) between weeks 24 and 28.

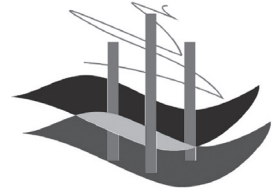
Risk factors include being over 40, being overweight or obese, a family history of diabetes, gestational diabetes in a prior pregnancy and a history of polycystic ovarian syndrome.

The health of the mother and baby are improved by good sugar control. The key is lifestyle measures. This means controlled weight gain during pregnancy and eating a diet rich in vegetables and low in processed high-sugar foods. Regular exercise, such as walking, also helps control blood sugar. Some women may need oral medications or insulin to help control sugars.

After giving birth, breastfeeding seems to help reduce weight and blood sugar. All women with GDM are advised a follow-up GTT between six and 12 weeks after delivery. There is a 50% risk of developing type 2 diabetes in the pursuant 20 years, so regular testing is recommended.



More info »



## Dalyellup Family Medical Centre

- **OTHER SERVICES OFFERED**
- Comprehensive health assessment for patients 75 years of age and older which includes a home visit by our nurse.
- Employment & Pre-Employment medicals with secure Drug & Alcohol testing collection.
- Full pathology collection services.
- All routine immunisations.
- Full time Practice Nurse/Midwife for routine blood pressure and blood sugar, wound dressings, etc.

● **Dalyellup Skin Care Clinic operates in the same building as Dalyellup Family Medical Centre.**

Services provided include:

- Skin cancer screening using Dermoscopy
- Treatment of pre-cancerous skin spots
- Biopsy and treatment of skin cancers
- Digital surveillance of atypical skin spots
- Total body photography
- General dermatology
- Corporate skin checks.

- **DR DARRYN RENNIE**

Dr Darryn Rennie is a GP with an interest in Skin Cancer Medicine, and he has a Diploma in Skin Cancer Medicine from the Australasian College of Skin Cancer Medicine.

- **PRIVATE BILLING**

Private billing applies to skin checks. A fee applies to procedures, with a portion of the fee claimable from Medicare.



### CHICKEN, BROCCOLI AND CASHEW STIR FRY

#### Ingredients

- 450g pkthokkien noodles
- 1 tbsp peanut oil
- 500g Chicken breast, thinly sliced
- 1 large red onion, cut into wedges
- ½ red capsicum cut into 1 inch pieces
- 2 tsp minced garlic
- 2 tsp crushed ginger
- 1 head broccoli, cut into florets, stem halved lengthways and thinly sliced
- 1/3 cup (80ml) your favourite brand of oyster sauce
- 1/2 cup (75g) unsalted cashews, toasted

#### Method

1. In a bowl marinate chicken pieces with 1 tablespoon oil, 1 tablespoon of cornstarch, 1 teaspoon of soy sauce and ½ teaspoon of sugar. Mix well and set aside for 30 minutes refrigerated.
2. Cook the rice following the directions on the packet and set aside.
3. Heat oil in a wok or large frying pan over high heat and stir fry the chicken. Do this in batches if necessary and transfer to a plate.
4. In the pan add oil, onion, capsicum, garlic, ginger and the broccoli and stir fry until broccoli is tender. Return chicken to the pan.
5. Add Oyster Sauce with ¼ cup water and cashews. Stir fry until heated through and the sauce starts to thicken. Serve with rice.

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SUGAR  
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DAMAGE  
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LIVER  
HEALTH  
BLOOD  
TEST  
HISTORY  
FAMILY  
OBESITY  
DRINK  
WATER  
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CAUSE  
DRUG  
DOCTOR

**WORD SEARCH**