



**This pack has been developed to help promote VHHITAL education and training courses and other opportunities across Victoria.**

### VHHITAL calendar of events

Please add our quarterly calendar of training sessions to your newsletters and social media calendars. Details of all statewide training for blood borne virus and sexually transmitted infection can be found on our [BBV/STI education and events calendar](#).

Training topic	Training dates – January and March 2024	
Working with Sex Workers: Health and Wellbeing under Decriminalisation	<a href="#">Monday, 29 January 2024</a>	12:00pm – 2:00pm
STI Essentials for Primary Care	<a href="#">Tuesday, 13 February 2024</a>	6:30pm – 8:30pm
Congenital Syphilis	<a href="#">Thursday, 22 February 2024</a>	6:30pm – 8:30pm
HIV s100 Prescriber Course	<a href="#">Tuesdays 5, 12, 19, 26 March 2024</a>	6:30pm – 8:30pm
Hepatitis B for Nurses and Midwives	<a href="#">Wednesday, 13 and Thursday, 14 March 2024</a>	11:00am – 3:00pm

### Social media and newsletters

VHHITAL is using the VTPHNA social channels to promote all events – please share the posts where possible. We have provided social media tiles and suggested copy for your newsletters and social media below. Click the tiles to download. If you require any size variations please let us know:

[vhhital@nwmpnh.org.au](mailto:vhhital@nwmpnh.org.au)

### Social tags

- Facebook: [@vtphna](#), [@mshc.org.au](#), [@StVincentHospitalMelb](#), [@MercyHealthAus](#), [@theroyalwomenshospital](#), [@TheAlfredHospital](#), [@VixenCollective](#), [@burnetinstitute](#)
- LinkedIn: [@victorian-tasmanian-phn-alliance](#), [@melbourne-sexual-health-centre](#), [@svhm](#), [@mercy-health-aus](#), [@the-royal-women's-hospital](#), [@burnet-institute-for-medical-research-and-public-health](#)
- Twitter/X: [@MSHCRResearch](#), [@StVHealthAust](#), [@MercyHealthAus](#), [@AlfredHealth](#), [@BurnetInstitute](#)

### Where to go for VHHITAL information

You can find all our course information, including members of faculty, and other opportunities on our [website](#).

Thank you for supporting VHHITAL.

Naomi Cooper

Lead, VHHITAL Program

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## 1. Working with Sex Workers: Health and Wellbeing under Decriminalisation

### Suggested newsletter copy

The Sex Work Decriminalisation Act 2022 (VIC) is an essential step in ensuring better health and human rights outcomes for sex workers. However, despite the law now recognizing sex work as legitimate work, the long history of stigma, discrimination and criminalisation of sex work is still a barrier to accessing health care including primary health, mental health and alcohol and other drug services.

This education session will support all primary health care workers, including mental health and alcohol and other drugs professionals, in understanding their responsibilities under the new legislation and equip them with the knowledge and confidence needed to provide best practice health care to all patients, whether sex work status has been disclosed or not.

**Date:** Thursday, 29 January 2024

**Time:** 12pm – 2pm

**CPD:** 2 RACGP CPD Educational Activity hours. All participants will receive a certificate of attendance.

**Register:** <https://bit.ly/41UNK8v>

### Suggested social media copy

- "It was an excellent session with highly skilled and knowledgeable presenters."
- "Expectations were by far exceeded. Engaging and informative presentation."
- "Thank you for encouraging me to be a better clinician!"

Hear from sex workers with diverse identities and experiences, ask questions and access ad hoc resources and network in our CPD-approved training sessions.

This training is co-designed by Victorian HIV and Hepatitis Integrated Training and Learning (VHHITAL) program and @Vixen Collective, Victoria's peer-only sex worker organisation and is funded by the Victorian Department of Health. Register here: <https://bit.ly/41UNK8v>



## 2. STI Essentials for Primary Care

### Suggested newsletter copy

Primary health care practitioners are the key to bringing the STI epidemic under control. Dr Melanie Bissessor, sexual health physician, Melbourne Sexual Health Centre presents an informative and interactive online 2-hour session.

By the end of this session, you will be able to confidently manage common STI screening and care, making sexual health a routine everyday part of your primary health care practice. The option of referring complex cases and receiving other supports from the new sexual health sentinel clinics will be highlighted.

**Date:** Tuesday, 13 February 2024

**Time:** 6:30pm – 8:30pm

**CPD:** 2 x RACGP CPD Educational Activity points. All participants will receive a certificate of attendance.

**Register:** <https://bit.ly/3tPMffl>

### Suggested social media copy

GPs and practice nurses: STIs are not always visible but can cause severe health problems if left undiagnosed and untreated. Don't miss your spot. Register for STI Essentials 2-hour online CPD-approved training with Dr Melanie Bissessor, sexual health physician at @Melbourne Sexual Health Centre, on 13 February 2024 to learn more.

Register here: <https://bit.ly/3tPMffl>



### 3. Congenital Syphilis

#### Suggested newsletter copy

Syphilis in pregnancy results in very high rates of foetal morbidity and mortality and should be treated as soon as practical after diagnosis, often in the general practice setting. This session will assist you to provide syphilis screening to your patients, interpret syphilis serology and provide appropriate treatment.

This interactive session will discuss the current increase in syphilis across Australia and address emerging issues including syphilis infection during pregnancy and risk of congenital syphilis. The session will also include case-based discussion to address the complexity of presentations of syphilis, including interpretation of test results and provision of treatment.

**Date:** Thursday, 22 February 2024

**Time:** 6:30pm – 8:30pm

**CPD:** 2 x RACGP CPD Educational Activity points. All participants will receive a certificate of attendance.

**Register:** <https://bit.ly/48taH5i>

#### Suggested social media copy

Syphilis in pregnancy results in very high rates of foetal morbidity and mortality and should be treated as soon as practical after diagnosis, often in the general practice setting. Don't miss your spot. Register for this online course with Dr Stephanie Bond, obstetrician gynaecologist and sexual health physician at @Melbourne Sexual Health Centre, @Mercy Hospital for Women and @Royal Women's Hospital on Thursday, 22 February 2024 to learn more.

Register here: <https://bit.ly/48taH5i>



## 4. HIV s100 Prescriber Course

### Suggested newsletter copy

Hosted by the Victorian HIV and Hepatitis Integrated Training and Learning (VHHITAL) program, this CPD-approved online course is designed to support GPs and nurse practitioners in managing and treating HIV in the general practice setting, providing them with the opportunity to establish relationships with local specialist services for ongoing mentoring and referral.

**Date:** Tuesdays, 5 – 26 March 2024

**Time:** 6:30pm – 8:30pm

**CPD:** 12.5 RACGP CPD Educational Activity, 9.5 Reviewing Performance hours

**Register:** <https://bit.ly/47uV2Rt>

### Suggested social media copy

Need help in managing and treating HIV? Become a s100 prescriber today.

Hosted by the Victorian HIV and Hepatitis Integrated Training and Learning (VHHITAL) program in collaboration with @Alfred Health, this CPD-approved course is designed to support GPs and nurse practitioners in managing and treating HIV in the general practice setting, providing them with the opportunity to establish relationships with local specialist services for ongoing mentoring and referral.

Don't miss your spot. Register for this online training course over 4 weeks: 5 – 26 March 2024.

Places are limited. Register now: <https://bit.ly/47uV2Rt>



## 5. For Nurses by Nurses: Hepatitis B

### Suggested newsletter copy

This course has been developed by nurses for nurses and midwives.

Over 2 online sessions, you will develop advanced skills and knowledge in hepatitis B nursing. Open across Victoria, the online course enables participants to discuss practice strategies with peers and specialists. This is an Australian College of Midwives CPD endorsed activity.

**Date:** Wednesday, 13 March and Thursday, 14 March 2024

**Time:** 11am – 3pm

**CPD:** 10 hours

**Register:** <https://bit.ly/3Se6WtJ>

### Suggested social media copy

Nurses and midwives: Hepatitis can cause severe health problems including liver cancer if left undiagnosed and untreated. Don't miss your spot. Register for this eight-hour online training with Dr Jacqui Richmond, @Burnet Institute in 2 parts: 13 and 14 March 2024.

Register here: <https://bit.ly/3Se6WtJ>