

Practice Presentation Summary:

Practice Tips for Managing Absolute Risk Assessments

➤ *General success factors*

- Getting everyone on the same page
- Involve the whole team from reception, nursing and GPs
- Strong practice nurse engagement and involvement
- Incorporation into existing workflows
- Documentation
- Clear allocation of responsibility
- Using the same calculators
- Team meetings and regular communication
- Education – when to use the tool and when it's not appropriate

➤ *Making it easy*

- Desktop shortcuts to calculators, red book, exclusion criteria
- Easy to locate coded entries in drop down menus (low, medium and high risk)

➤ *Be Proactive. Value add. Appointments are golden*

- Look ahead at the beginning of the day and identify/flag appropriate patients
- Use the people you have already identified as high risk e.g. those with care plans or attending clinics
- Use checklists and prompts e.g. age related screening-risk calculations (AUSDIAB and CVD risk), observations, tests (SCR) and vaccinations.
- Automatically enter the reminders so you keep the ball rolling for years to come
- Use the red book to decide when to repeat things like lipids

➤ **Be Smart**

- Batch the assessments and do the calculations once a day
- Get the patients back to review results and use it as an education tool

➤ **Positive Feedback**

- Display numbers in graphs
- Set goals
- Offer praise/recognition in meetings

➤ **Pitfalls**

- Time, time and time
- Competing agendas
- Following up the results and responding to the identified risk factors
- Lower priority for GPs at time of consultation
- Low rates of CV risk documentation when trialled with GPs, despite good intentions initially
- Lack of clarity in communication to PNs- some misclassification BUT GPs are noticing and correcting