

# **EXPRESSION OF INTEREST**

## **Better Pain Management Course for Primary Health Care Providers**

Due: 5:00 pm, 30 April 2025

## Table of Contents

1. COORDINARE – South Eastern NSW PHN.....	3
2. Background and purpose of funding.....	3
About Better Pain Management education modules.....	3
Continuing Professional Development .....	4
3. Eligibility.....	4
4. Funding.....	4
5. How to apply?.....	4
6. Timeline.....	4
7. How to contact us .....	5
8. Contract arrangements.....	5
9. Assessment criteria.....	5
Appendix 1 – Application Form .....	6
Appendix 2 – Conditions of this Expression of Interest.....	8

## 1. COORDINARE – South Eastern NSW PHN

COORDINARE – (South Eastern NSW PHN) is one of 31 Primary Health Networks (PHNs) established throughout Australia with the key objectives of improving the efficiency and effectiveness of health services for patients, particularly those at risk of poor health outcomes, and improving coordination of care to ensure patients receive the right care in the right place at the right time.

COORDINARE works directly with general practitioners, other primary health care providers, secondary care providers and hospitals to bring about improved outcomes for patients. Our focus is on local health needs as well as national health priorities and funded programs, particularly in the areas of chronic disease (and potentially preventable hospitalisations), mental health, Alcohol and Other Drugs, Aboriginal health, after-hours services, and healthy ageing.

Commissioning is central to COORDINARE's ability to achieve these objectives and address local and national priorities. As a commissioning organisation, COORDINARE is involved in a continual cycle of developing and implementing health services and related initiatives based on planning, procurement, review and evaluation cycles involving providers, communities and consumers. More information about SE NSW PHN can be found on our [website](#).

## 2. Background and purpose of funding

Chronic pain is a significant chronic health issue within the SENSW region, with prevalence in the catchment higher than the state and national average and numbers anticipated to rise over the next 30 years. Rising rates of chronic pain are expected to increase the burden of health and social care needs for impacted individuals.

In line with recommendations from the National Strategic Action Plan for Pain Management, COORDINARE are providing the opportunity for up to 32 clinicians (GPs, nurses and allied health) working in primary care across the catchment to complete the Faculty of Pain Medicine ANZCA Better Pain Management course through the provision of small grants. **Successful grant recipients will receive a grant package to the value of \$1,620.00, which comprises pre-purchased access to the course (valued at \$315.00) and funding to support clinicians to undertake the training in their own time (\$1,305.00)**

### *About Better Pain Management education modules*

The [Better Pain Management Program](#) has been developed by specialist pain medicine physicians and other experts in the field of pain management to better equip health professionals to deliver effective pain management to patients with acute and chronic pain. The program is offered by the Faculty of Pain Medicine (FPM) of the Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists (ANZCA). has been developed by specialist pain medicine physicians and other experts in the field of pain management to better equip health professionals to deliver effective pain management to patients with acute and chronic pain. The program is offered by the Faculty of Pain Medicine (FPM) of the Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists (ANZCA).

The program has been developed by FPM Fellows and other experts in specific areas relevant to pain management and has been contributed to, supported or endorsed by the following partnering organisations:

- Royal Australian College of General Practitioners
- Australian Pain Society
- Painaustralia
- Australian Government, Department of Health

The 12-module comprehensive and engaging Better Pain Management program is an interactive and patient-centred approach for health professionals to help manage their patients that suffer from non-malignant chronic pain. By using a sociopsychobiomedical model approach to the pain experience, the Better Pain Management course enhances skills for the health professional in patient assessment and evaluation

techniques. Learning is completely self-directed and self-paced, and each module takes approximately one hour to complete.

### Continuing Professional Development

For participants of the ANZCA/FPM Continuing Professional Development (CPD) program, completion of the modules accrues CPD credits under knowledge and skills.

Completion of the course is anticipated to take approximately 12 hours. This activity may be cited as evidence of satisfying CPD requirements for AHPRA registered practitioners or self-claimed learning activity through other governing bodies.

### 3. Eligibility

There are up to 32 grants available.

Health professional (GPs, Nurses, and Allied Health) working in Primary Care within the SENSW PHN catchment area are invited to apply for this project if they have an interest in chronic pain management and work with patient groups that would benefit from the application of knowledge obtained from the program. Grants will be limited to 1 per practice where demand outweighs supply.

Clinicians must be willing and able to complete the program by **7 November 2025** and willing to participate in a post-training evaluation on the program quality and usefulness in practice.

Clinicians who have previously received funding from COORDINARE to support training in the area of Chronic Pain will not be eligible for this grant.

### 4. Funding

This is a one-off grant package to the value of \$1,620.00 per clinician (GST excluding). The grant package includes:

- Pre-paid access to the Better Pain Management course.
- Funding to support clinician learning hours.

### 5. How to apply?

Please complete the application form (**Appendix 1 – page 6 & 7**) which includes a section to address grant selection criteria.

Applications can be submitted via [electronic form](#) on the [COORDINARE website](#) or via email to [commissioning@coordinare.org.au](mailto:commissioning@coordinare.org.au). Applications must be received by **5:00pm AEST 30 April 2025**.

Late applications will not be accepted.

### 6. Timeline

An indicative timeline is outlined below. COORDINARE reserves the right to modify these timeframes. Any changes to this EOI will be updated on COORDINARE's website.

Grant released	13 March 2025
Last day for questions to COORDINARE	7 April 2025
Last day for question responses from COORDINARE	8 April 2025
Last day for applications to be received	5:00 pm 30 April 2025
Assessment of applications	Late April 2025
Clarification/negotiation with the applicant	Late April /May 2025
Contracts awarded	Within two weeks of evaluation outcome
Last day to have completed the course	7 November 2025

Last day for certificates of completion to be submitted	14 November 2025
Last day for evaluations to be completed	14 November 2025

## 7. How to contact us

For any questions regarding this process please email Commissioning Business Team at [commissioning@coordinare.org.au](mailto:commissioning@coordinare.org.au).

## 8. Contract arrangements

Successful respondents will be required to enter into a grant agreement with COORDINARE. The term of the contract awarded will be from the date of execution until 14 November 2025.

Upon completing the training, funding recipients will be required to provide:

- **Certificate Submission:** Grant recipients must submit a certificate of completion by 14 November 2025, via Folio Contract Management system.
- **Evaluation:** Grant recipients are required to complete a brief evaluation to provide feedback on their experience and usefulness of the course in practice. Electronic survey link will be provided to all Grant recipients.

## 9. Assessment criteria

Applications will be assessed on their response to the assessment criteria found within the application form. Applications will also be assessed based on local identified need and as such, applications from clinicians working in low socioeconomic or under resourced communities and those with a large volume of patients with pain presentations may be prioritised.

## Better Pain Management Course for Primary Health Care Providers Grant

Section A – Applicant Details	
Applicant name:	
Mobile phone:	
Email:	
GP practice or place of work:	
GP practice or place of work address:	
Position/title:	
Professional Body/ Membership Number:	(i.e. RACGP; AHPRA)
ABN/GST registration <i>(select 1 of the option)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> I have an ABN and am registered for GST. ABN number:
	<input type="checkbox"/> I have an ABN and am not registered for GST ABN number:
	<input type="checkbox"/> I do not have an ABN and am not registered for GST

Section B – Application Responses		
1. Please provide an overview of your patient cohort including approximate numbers of patients presenting with Chronic pain issues (Maximum 250 words).		
2. Which modules within the Better Pain Management Program are most relevant to your professional practice (please tick) and why? (Maximum 350 words).		
<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; border: none;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Making an effective pain diagnosis: a whole person approach  <input type="checkbox"/> The impact and management of psychological factors in pain  <input type="checkbox"/> A whole person approach to chronic pain  <input type="checkbox"/> Neuropathic pain: Identification and management  <input type="checkbox"/> Lower back pain: Assessment and management in primary care  <input type="checkbox"/> Opioids in pain management                 </td> <td style="width: 50%; border: none;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Pharmacology of pain medicine  <input type="checkbox"/> Non-joint musculoskeletal pains  <input type="checkbox"/> Acute pain management: Post-discharge  <input type="checkbox"/> Understanding pain-related procedures  <input type="checkbox"/> High-dose problematic opioid use  <input type="checkbox"/> Pain in children                 </td> </tr> </table>	<input type="checkbox"/> Making an effective pain diagnosis: a whole person approach <input type="checkbox"/> The impact and management of psychological factors in pain <input type="checkbox"/> A whole person approach to chronic pain <input type="checkbox"/> Neuropathic pain: Identification and management <input type="checkbox"/> Lower back pain: Assessment and management in primary care <input type="checkbox"/> Opioids in pain management	<input type="checkbox"/> Pharmacology of pain medicine <input type="checkbox"/> Non-joint musculoskeletal pains <input type="checkbox"/> Acute pain management: Post-discharge <input type="checkbox"/> Understanding pain-related procedures <input type="checkbox"/> High-dose problematic opioid use <input type="checkbox"/> Pain in children
<input type="checkbox"/> Making an effective pain diagnosis: a whole person approach <input type="checkbox"/> The impact and management of psychological factors in pain <input type="checkbox"/> A whole person approach to chronic pain <input type="checkbox"/> Neuropathic pain: Identification and management <input type="checkbox"/> Lower back pain: Assessment and management in primary care <input type="checkbox"/> Opioids in pain management	<input type="checkbox"/> Pharmacology of pain medicine <input type="checkbox"/> Non-joint musculoskeletal pains <input type="checkbox"/> Acute pain management: Post-discharge <input type="checkbox"/> Understanding pain-related procedures <input type="checkbox"/> High-dose problematic opioid use <input type="checkbox"/> Pain in children	
3. How do you anticipate that participation in the Better Pain Management program will impact your practice? (Maximum 250 words).		

--

<b>Section C – Declaration</b>	
--------------------------------	--

<i><b>This must be completed by the individual submitting the application:</b></i>	<b>Agree</b>
If this application is successful, I agree to provide required deliverables (including invoice and certificate of completion) to COORDINARE – South Eastern NSW PHN via Folio Contract Management software.	<input type="checkbox"/>
I understand and accept that information provided in this application may be stored by COORDINARE – South Eastern NSW PHN in various hardcopy and/or electronic formats.	<input type="checkbox"/>
I understand that this application does not create a legal or binding commitment and that if successful I will be bound by a contract with COORDINARE - South Eastern NSW PHN.	<input type="checkbox"/>
I can confirm that the contents of this application are to the best of my knowledge accurate, complete and do not contain any false, misleading or deceptive misrepresentation, claims or statements.	<input type="checkbox"/>
I understand that if the conditions of the funding are not complied with, COORDINARE – South Eastern NSW PHN may seek to recover any funds allocated.	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>Applicant Name:</b>		<b>Date:</b>	
<b>Applicant Signature</b> <i>(e-signature accepted)</i>			

## Appendix 2 – Conditions of this Expression of Interest

General	Applicants should familiarise themselves with this document and the separate application form and ensure that their proposals comply with the requirements set out in these documents.
Acceptance	A non-complying submission may be rejected. COORDINARE may not accept any application.
Explanations	Verbal explanations or instructions given prior to acceptance of a proposal shall not bind COORDINARE.
Legal entity	COORDINARE will only enter into a contract with an organisation or individual, or a natural person at least 18 years of age with mental capacity to understand the agreement.
Expenses	All expenses and costs incurred by the practice in connection with this EOI including (without limitation) preparing and lodging a submission, providing COORDINARE with further information, attending interviews and participating in any subsequent negotiations, are the sole responsibility of the applicant
Additional information	If additional information to that requested in this document is required by COORDINARE when proposals are being considered, written information may be requested to obtain such information at no cost to COORDINARE. COORDINARE may also provide additional information or clarification.
Process	COORDINARE reserves the right to withdraw from, or alter, the EOI process described in this document for whatever reason, prior to the signing of any agreement/contract with any party.
Ownership	All submissions become the property of COORDINARE once lodged. COORDINARE may copy, or otherwise deal with all or any part of a submission for the purpose of conducting evaluation of submissions.
Notification of Probity Breach	Should any applicant feel that they have been unfairly excluded from responding or unfairly disadvantaged by the process, the applicant is invited to write to the Business Team at <a href="mailto:commissioning@coordinare.org.au">commissioning@coordinare.org.au</a>
Lobbying	Any attempt by any Respondent to exert influence on the outcome of the assessment process by lobbying COORDINARE staff, directly or indirectly, will be grounds for disqualification of the application from further consideration.
No contract	Nothing in this EOI should be construed to give rise to any contractual obligations or rights, express or implied, by the issue of this EOI or the lodgement of submission in response to it. No contract will be created unless and until a formal written contract is executed between COORDINARE and a Respondent. Respondents will not be considered approved until a final service agreement is in place.