

10 December 2024

Do you know where to go when your doctor is closed this Holiday Season?

Did you know that injuries due to preventable accidents spike during the Christmas-New Year period? If you or your family find yourself with a non life-threatening illness or injury this festive season, the emergency department is not your only option.

Wentworth Healthcare, the provider of the Nepean Blue Mountains Primary Health Network, is encouraging residents in Lithgow to consider after hours services rather than presenting to Lithgow hospital.

Wentworth Healthcare CEO, Lizz Reay, said that many people are unaware of the alternative options available outside of their GP's regular office hours.

“Our **Doctor Closed website** allows local residents to search for a GP who is open and for other alternative options. You can also use the online symptom checker, find pharmacies that are open, or talk to a health professional 24 hours a day, 7 days a week on the Healthdirect helpline on **1800 022 222.**”

Additionally, **Lithgow Medical Clinic, located at 11 Bridge St**, is open Monday to Friday 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM, Saturday and Sunday 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM, and public holidays 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. The Clinic will be **open on Boxing Day** but closed on Christmas Day and New Years Day.

“We’re proud to fund this after hours service to help our community access timely care and help the strain on our region’s hospitals, especially during the busy holiday period,” said Ms. Reay.

“I encourage everyone to visit www.DoctorClosed.com.au to find out what other local healthcare options are available,” Ms Reay concluded.

Further information if needed like event details

For interviews or further information contact:

Bess Bosman

Manager - Media and Government Relations

T 0438 261 015

E Bess.Bosman@nbmphn.com.au

OR

Krystle Goulding

Communications and Media Officer

T 4708 8199

E Krystle.Goulding@nbmphn.com.au