

Upcoming Courses and Events

National Dementia Research Forum - 2010



Hosted by the Dementia Collaborative Research Centres (DCRCs), the Annual National Dementia Research Forum will be held at the Holiday Inn on the Gold Coast on 23-24 September 2010. The theme of the Forum is 'Translating Research into Practice' and will showcase the latest research in Quality of Life and Quality of Care for people living with dementia and their carers.

To register or for more information on this event, please go to the news and events tab at www.dementiaresearch.org.au/.

General Practitioners

\$500,000 Grant to Expand your Practice



On Friday 25 June, the Health Minister announced the immediate availability of grants for capital upgrade and expansion of existing general practices.

Three levels of funding ranging up to \$500,000 are available for capital works projects that support:

- Expanding or upgrading a practice to increase the number of doctors, nurses or allied health staff;
- Expanding services to the communities, including after hours services; and
- Training of new doctors and other health professionals together in a GP Super Clinic-style facility.

Applications for funding are open to any eligible organisation or individual operating an existing general practice, and the Division can support you in making the application for the funding.

Further information regarding the grants is available www.health.gov.au/tenders or www.health.gov.au/gpsuperclinics and the Division website is being updated with further details and useful information.

For further information please contact Tracy Nairn at the Division on 3274 1886.

Chronic Disease Management

Allied Health Professions Australia (AHPA) has developed a new chronic disease management resource package for general practitioners, general practice nurses and allied health professionals to support multidisciplinary teamwork.

The guide is aimed at achieving improved outcomes for people with chronic and complex conditions, and is an informational resource package containing information on:

- Medicare requirements for patient eligibility, service requirements and processes
- Examples of how healthcare teams for chronic diseases could be structured, potential treatments and triggers for referral
- Communications tools
- Instant access into allied health professionals association's directories, providing national coverage

The guide is available on the Allied Health Professions Australia website at www.cdm.ahpa.com.au and the Brisbane South Division Website at www.brisbanesouth.com.au under the resources tab.

Cancer Learning: Online Resource

Cancer Learning is an online professional development website designed specifically for health care professionals working in cancer care, developed by Cancer Australia in association with leading Australian professional bodies and cancer organisations.

Cancer Learning aims to:

- Consolidate the enormous variety of evidence-based learning activities, resources and information in cancer care available across Australia and overseas
- Provide a first port of call for health professionals, organisations and cancer networks who wish to undertake, build or plan professional development programs and activities in cancer care
- Enable resources and information to be shared by cancer care providers across Australia

For more information or to access this tool, please go to www.cancerlearning.gov.au/.

General Practitioners



Diabetes - Primary Prevention

Did you know:

- The number of people with diabetes will nearly double within the first quarter of this millennium. Source - World Health Report, 1997; Geneva: WHO
- The pooled effect of pharmacological interventions, by anti-diabetic oral drugs, on reduction of type 2 diabetes incidence is 28%. Source - Gillies CL et al. *British Medical Journal* 2007; 334: 299
- The pooled effect of lifestyle interventions, which aim at weight reduction and regular physical activity, on reduction of type 2 diabetes incidence is 49%. Source - Gillies CL et al. *British Medical Journal* 2007; 334: 299
- Diabetic patients without previous MI have as high a risk of MI as non-diabetic patients with previous MI. Source - New England Journal of Medicine 1998;339:229–234

Spiritus Amend Program

The consumption of alcohol during pregnancy and breastfeeding has the potential to cause significant and irreversible effects on a child's health and wellbeing. It would appear that while women are aware that alcohol consumption has an effect they are not aware of the extent of the impact.

The Spiritus Amend program (assisting mothers to end the need for drugs) provides direct counseling and support to children affected by a parent's or other caregiver's substance use. The service is voluntary and provided free of charge to families living between Burpengary and Waterford West as well as on the Gold Coast from Runaway Bay to Coolangatta.

One of the focus' of the Amend Program is to provide resources to general practitioners and other health professionals to assist in increasing women's awareness of the dangers of consuming alcohol during pregnancy and breastfeeding. For your reference 'Alcohol the Facts' and 'Alcohol and Pregnancy' resources are now available on Brisbane South Divisions website at www.brisbanesouth.com.au.

For more information on the Amend program, please go to www.spiritus.org.au.

Practice Management

National Marketing Campaign for Diabetes Risk Assessment



On the 21 June 2010, a national marketing campaign including TV and radio commercials commenced for the National Diabetes Prevention Program, advising the public to go to their doctors for weight management and diabetes risk assessment. Practice staff are advised to be prepared for increased enquiries from patients.

Don't forget, the new 'high risk' score for diabetes risk is 12 on the AUSDRISK Tool. To find out more about diabetes risk assessments and referrals to a lifestyle modification program, please go to the Division website www.brisbanesouth.com or call Suanne Robertson, Program Coordinator (Healthy Lifestyles), on 3274 1886.

New resources are now available from the Division website, your Area Manager, or Suanne.

QUICK FIND GRAPHICS KEY



General Practitioners



Key Information



Nurses



Practice Management

These graphic symbols were created to help you quickly find the information that is most crucial to you