

Enhancing practice involvement in our Division:
The GP Liaison Link

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(GP Network)





Network

Enhancing Practice Involvement in our Division

~ The GP Liaison Link ~

Dr Tim Lipscombe
Fremantle Regional *GP Network*

Promoting Divisions
National Divisions Forum 2004





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Fremantle GP *Network* recognises ...

Importance of “Whole of Practice” approach

GPs inundated with communication

Government

Specialists

Drug companies

Division of General Practice



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Getting GPs involved in Divisions is central to Division's survival

It is crucial to:

- Get greater, positive profile among constituents
- Quiet voices of active haters of Division movement

What did we do?

Identified GPs in “low or no contact” Practices
to act as conduit with *GP Network*

- 3 or more FTE GPs
- Regular staff meetings
- Employed a Practice Nurse
- Access to email
- Under-utilising Divisional services

11 potential practices identified
8 GPs agreed to be involved



GP

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Benefits for GP

- Biggest barrier always time – this paid for their time
- Final evaluation held in Rottnest - family weekend

Aim

- Up-skill GPs in what *GP Network* has to offer; and
- Get them to regularly update their colleagues regarding Divisional activities

Timeframe

6 months ~ March to October 2004

Identified and discussed issues

Focus group held

Identified

- Current barriers to working with Division
- Explained Divisions role in Govt initiatives – sticking point for some
- Ways to assist GPs & Practice Staff to use *GP Network's* services
 - ~ Promote financial incentives
 - ~ Promote electronic templates
 - ~ Introduce new GP members Folder
overview of programs & update annually
- Need for Practice staff education ~ importance of disseminating Division information

Contact

Staff visited Practice Liaison GPs in their practice

Explained role of Divisional & resources available

Identified areas of interest

Developed Plan of Action

Attended *GP Network...ing* Expo

Fortnightly contact

“Think tank” weekend @ Rottneest



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The Project reached...

40% GPs with “no to low” Divisional contact



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