



NEWS RELEASE

Australian Divisions of General Practice Ltd.

Friday, 15 April, 2005

GP Divisions lend a hand to Western Sydney

With news that the Western Sydney Division of General Practice will cease trading shortly, surrounding GP Divisions, the Australian Divisions of General Practice (ADGP) and the Alliance of New South Wales Divisions (ANSWD) have pulled together to lend a hand.

Dr Ian Adair, ANSWD CEO said, "We anticipate that services may be funded by the Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing in the short term so that a longer term solution can be developed for the new financial year. We aim to involve the GPs of Western Sydney in any decisions regarding their future.

"We are hopeful for the best outcome for all involved," he said.

Kate Carnell, ADGP CEO, said the aim of the collaborative effort was to ensure the delivery of effective general practice support services to the Western Sydney community.

"The neighbouring divisions, whose territories lie along the boundaries of the previous Western Sydney DGP, have committed to work together to deliver services in the region.

"We have agreed to work as a team as responsible members of the Divisions network to fill the gap left by Western Sydney Division," she said.

The six divisions of general practice involved in supporting the Western Sydney community -Bankstown, Central Sydney, Fairfield, Hawkesbury, Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Ryde and the Nepean - were looking forward to developing a solution for the region, and were encouraged by the support role being taken by ADGP, ANSWD and the Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing.

"We are hopeful that under these unfortunate circumstances we can provide a good outcome for all involved," Dr Adair said.

For more information contact Kate Carnell, ADGP CEO: 0415 66 22 66

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The Divisions of General Practice Network links 95 per cent of GPs across Australia in a national structure that supports general practice and improves community access to primary care. This network is the key to integrating general practice with other sectors of the health system, both government and non-government, to deliver high quality care to the Australian community.