



NEWS RELEASE

Australian Divisions of General Practice Ltd.

11 April 2006

Government support for nurses in general practices should be extended to all practices

ADGP welcomes the announcement today by the Minister for Health and Ageing to extend the subsidy to employ nurses in an additional 650 general practices in urban areas of workforce shortage.

Over 50% of general practices across Australia now employ a practice nurse, with close to 5,000 nurses now working in this area.

Kate Carnell said "We agree that using practice nurses is an important step in relieving workforce pressures created by doctor shortages. Nurses are involved in delivering a wide range of services and play a particularly important role in assisting the general practitioner in the management of people with chronic illnesses.

"Practice nurses are skilled and experienced professionals who play a key role in supporting general practitioners and working as part of the health care team to deliver primary care services to their communities."

ADGP's Primary Health Care Position Statement released last year identifies practice nurses as core members of the general practice teams of the future.

"Whilst today's announcement is welcomed the extension of the practice nurse subsidy to all practices would make a big difference in supporting every practice to be able to employ a practice nurse."

For more information please call Kate Carnell, ADGP Chief Executive Officer, on 0415 662 266.

WHAT IS ADGP?

- ADGP is the peak body representing 119 Divisions of General Practice and eight State-based organisations (SBOs) around Australia. The Divisions Network supports general practice and their practice teams and drives the implementation of innovative health strategies.
- ADGP, through the Divisions Network, works to integrate general practice with other sectors of the health system, both government and non-government, to deliver high quality care to the Australian community.
- ADGP is committed to promoting the health of all Australians by supporting the role of Divisions in the nation's primary health care system.



Telephone 02 6228 0800

Facsimile 02 6228 0899

Email adgpreception@adgp.com.au

Australian Divisions of General Practice Ltd.
ACN 082 812 146

PO Box 1126 Belconnen ACT 2617

Telephone: 02-6251 3380 ♦ Facsimile: 02-6251 3390 ♦ Email: adgpreception@adgp.com.au