



Australian Divisions of **General Practice**

The fortnightly e-newsletter of the Australian Divisions of General Practice Ltd.

ADGP News

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Inside this issue

CEO'S REPORT	1
NEWS FROM THE NETWORK AND PROGRAMS	3
USEFUL INFORMATION FROM BEYOND THE NETWORK	6
POSITIONS VACANT	10
CONFERENCES AND COURSES	11
CONTACT THE EDITOR	12

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CEO'S REPORT – FROM KATE CARNELL

The last couple of weeks have seen the release of a number of important statements. We saw the Health Minister and Parliamentary Secretary for Health announcing significant reform agendas. The ADGP team continues to analyse and critique these announcements, keep key decision maker aware of views and identify and market the opportunities provided by the Divisions Network.

The Senate Select Committee on Mental Health released its findings, clearly supporting the role of Divisions with programs such as MAHS and ATAPs featuring positively in their announcements. As we continue to await the next Council of Australian Government meeting where this and all the other Mental Health announcements will be discussed, ADGP has ramped up our activity promoting Divisions as the solution to primary health care reform. This certainly has support from the Commonwealth and we feel confident that the States too, will see Divisions as solution driven, and able to play an important part in improving the health of local communities.

As the federal Budget moves closer, ADGP is meeting with various decisions makers to discuss our 2006 Budget proposal, linking it closely with the agendas of CoAG and the work completed by the Senate Committee on mental health. Again with the Review Implementation Committee Reforms strongly embedded within the Network, ADGP has a stronger position in which to convince funders that the Network can deliver.

We plan to deliver an analysis of the Federal Budget to the Network early on Wednesday 10 May, the morning after the 2006 budget announcements.

The Review Implementation Committee met in late April for the tenth time, where we said goodbye to Andrew Waters as one of our Divisions Network representatives (Andrew is moving on from the Kimberley Division of General Practice). Information management was a key focus of this meeting, with a communiqué due out shortly covering the agreed outcomes from the day.

Many of you would have seen the communications from ADGP with a heads-up to the Network on the next round of the "Around the Clock – Medicare After hours GP grants". These will be advertised from the end of April, with applications closing on the **30 June 2006**.

The Divisions Network Executive Leadership and Management Program held the first of their five day residential in April, with strong representation from CEOs and leaders from across Australia. The three syndicate groups have formed strong alliances, and I even hear the challenge is out – the winner of the Coogee Cup takes it all!

The great news about the Leadership program is that there are incentives now available for Intake II – June 5-9 2006.

Applications for Intake II are now open, with more information available on the ADGP website at:

<http://www.adgp.com.au/site/index.cfm?display=7933&filter=i&leca=16&did=72528553>

ADGP has been fortunate to be involved in the orientation, in partnership with ANSWD, of the new team created by Martin Wiltshire and Sally Maspero at Wentwest. Wentwest have been welcomed by the ADGP Board as full members, and the development of the team in such a short period of time has been fantastic to see. We wish them the best of luck working to support the local GPs and their practices in the Western Sydney region of NSW.

Many of you may have noticed that ADGP and a number of the SBOs have been advertising for high level, skilled professionals in the area of Information Management. This is one component of the announcement from the 2005 National Divisions Forum that will see Divisions supported in the development of an IM Strategy for the Network focusing on the NQPS. ADGP in partnership with the SBOs, has developed a short update which can be found on the ADGP website at:

http://www.adgp.com.au/site/index.cfm?PageMode=indiv&module=NEWS&page_id=10131

We look forward to working in partnership with the Network to further develop this strategy.

Next week will see the second meeting of the Ministerially appointed Professional Programs and Services Advisory Committee (PP-SAC) – the group that will provide the Minister for Health with advice on the services for the 4th Community Pharmacy Agreement. The PP-SAC will discuss at this meeting the Home Medicine Review program, which includes the funding for the Divisions Network for the Medication management Review facilitators. ADGP hopes to be able to provide the Network with an update on the outcomes of this meeting in the next edition of ADGP News.

Finally, with all the challenges that lie ahead for the Divisions Network, it is fantastic to return from holidays refreshed and revitalised for the challenges ahead. I would like to thank my wonderful team for doing such a great job while I was away.

And for those that are interested, I can also share a few recipes for some great pasta and other Tuscan delicacies.

[BACK TO TOP](#)

NEWS FROM THE NETWORK AND PROGRAMS

✚ Changes to the PIP IM/IT Incentive from November 2006: Potential to impact on practice income

Changes to simplify and improve the Practice Incentives Program (PIP) were announced late last year. One of these changes affects the PIP IM/IT Incentive. The new arrangements were developed in close consultation with the profession on the basis that accurate and complete medical documentation supports good clinical care and enhances communication between health providers to the benefit of both consumers and providers. The revised PIP IM/IT arrangements aim to:

- Encourage practices to implement more secure IT practice systems and electronic patient health records
- Facilitate efficient and widespread information transfer and storage
- Encourage and reward general practices that are implementing strategies towards enhanced use of electronic patient records.

Two levels of activity – Basic and Enhanced – will be recognised under the revised PIP IM/IT Incentive:

Tier 1: Basic

The practice maintains electronic patient records, which include clinical data on allergies/sensitivities for the majority of active patients. In addition, the practice implements appropriate information security measures (e.g. virus protection, firewall, backup and recovery, access control and practice procedures/processes to support/maintain appropriate information security). The practice also uses appropriate security (e.g. encryption systems) when patient information and/or clinical data are transferred electronically.

Tier 2: Enhanced

The practice qualifies for Tier 1 and uses electronic patient records to record and store clinical information on patients, including current and past major diagnoses and current medications for the majority of active patients.

Payments will be made to PIP practices on a quarterly basis with other PIP practice payments. Practices which do not meet either of these tiers will not receive PIP IM/IT payments from November 2006. Payments for the new IM/IT tiers will be: Tier 1 \$4 per SWPE per annum and Tier 2: \$3 per SWPE per annum

To enable practices to organise their systems to meet the new requirements, the changes will not be implemented until November 2006. Practices can begin to address information security issues through the Broadband for Health Program, which provides IT security support. In the meantime, eligible practices will continue to receive IM/IT Incentive payments under the existing arrangements.

Further information about these changes, which were also advised in the last two PIP News Updates, will follow shortly from the Department of Health and Ageing. ADGP will soon also be conducting a very short survey about these changes to help inform their subsequent implementation. Your assistance with this will be greatly appreciated. For further information about this matter please contact Rachael Yates on ryates@adgp.com.au or Adrian Beekmeijer on abeekmeijer@adgp.com.au

✚ Update on Overseas Trained Doctor Committees

ADGP has been involved with several Overseas Trained Doctor (OTD) committees over a number of months. An update on progress and status of these is provided below:

TROTD Steering Committee and working group:

ADGP has recently been involved with several other agencies in the above two groups, convened by the Department of Health and Ageing (DoHA) to look at developing uniform, national criteria for the registration and assessment of TROTDs. One item that has been discussed is the use of a standardised national position description (PD) document that medical boards can use to assess TROTDs against when they apply for registration. A draft PD is currently being trialled in several states. ADGP will keep you informed of any further progress in this area.

OTD reference group and DoctorConnect website:

As part of the Australian Government's Strengthening Medicare initiative, ADGP has been involved over the last two years in both the OTD Reference Group and the DoctorConnect Steering Committee. Both committees were convened by DoHA and have provided opportunities for providing Network input into the initiative as well as for updating and informing the Network on aspects of the initiative including: international recruitment strategies; reduced red tape in approval processes for OTDs; changes to immigration regulations for OTDs, improved training arrangements for OTDs. A major achievement of the committee was the development of the DoctorConnect website which the Network has helped promote through the ADGP Forum, ADGP News and other outlets.

As the DoctorConnect website is now complete and the Strengthening Medicare initiative is drawing towards an end, no further committee meetings for these two groups (in their current format at least) are envisaged.

Further information about the OTD Reference Group and a summary of the last meeting can be accessed at: http://www.health.gov.au/internet/wcms/publishing.nsf/Content/health-medicare-health_pro-otd-refgroup.htm

The DoctorConnect website can be viewed at: <http://www.doctorconnect.gov.au/>

For any further information on these matters contact ryates@adgp.com.au

National developments in primary mental health care

A number of recent announcements and developments have been made regarding mental health. These carry much promise for the future role of the Divisions network.

Senate Select Committee on Mental Health

The Senate Select Committee on Mental Health brought down its First Report on 30 March 2006. A full copy can be found at http://www.aph.gov.au/senate/committee/mentalhealth_ctte/report/index.htm

The Committee had a wide-ranging terms of reference. The Committee examined issues such as the adequacy of various modes of care for people with mental illness, opportunities for improving coordination of funding and delivery of services, the appropriate role of the private and non-government sectors, the role of primary health care in promotion, prevention, early detection and chronic disease management and the potential for new modes of delivery including e-technology.

The First Report addressed the *Better Outcomes in Mental Health Care* program in some detail pointing out what the Committee perceived to be shortfalls. While there has always been scope to streamline the administrative side of the program, it is unfortunate the Committee failed to pick up on some of the positive impacts of the program, particularly the impact the ATAPS services in communities and the extent to which GPs value mental health education and training. Overall, the Report had a primary health care thrust and called for expanded options for multidisciplinary community-based mental care, including care delivered in the primary health care setting. In particular, the Committee concluded that this shift can be ably supported by Divisions of General Practice.

Prime Minister's Mental Health Package

In early April the Prime Minister announced a 5 year \$1.8 billion package with further detail to follow in the 2006-07 Federal Budget. The package includes:

- Increases in clinical and health services in the community and new team work arrangements for psychiatrists, GPs, psychologists and mental health nurses,
- New non-clinical and respite services for people with mental illness and their families and carers
- Increases in the mental health workforce
- New programmes for community awareness.

Specific measures include:

- A restructure of the Medicare Benefits Scheme from 1 November 2006 to better support the work of psychiatrists and to allow GPs and psychiatrists to refer patients with a mental illness to psychologists, and these services will now be eligible for a Medicare rebate
- Funding for GPs and psychiatrists to employ mental health nurses in their practices
- More funding for mental health nurses and allied health services to provide treatment in rural areas

- Funding for additional mental health and clinical psychology university places
- New funding for drug and alcohol treatment services so that people working in these services are better skilled at dealing with people who suffer from both a mental illness and drug addiction
- Additional funding for Lifeline
- Increased funding for the National Suicide Prevention Strategy

Many Divisions have been asking what the announcement means for the *Better Outcomes in Mental Health Care* program. Our advice from the Department of Health and Ageing is that the program has been funded to June 2009 and Divisions can expect to receive a 3 year contract for access to psychological services under their 2007-2009 MPA.

ADGP's media releases in response to the Senate Report and the Prime Minister's announcement can be found on our website www.adgp.com.au.

National Youth Mental Health Foundation

The successful consortium to establish and operate the *National Youth Mental Health Foundation* was announced by the Prime Minister in December 2005. ADGP is a member of the consortium along with Orygen Research Centre, the Brain and Mind Research Institute and the Australian Psychological Society.

The *Foundation* was announced as part of the youth mental health initiative in the 2005 Federal Budget and has funding of \$54 million over 4 years to implement:

- A centre of excellence – to consolidate and disseminate the evidence base, sponsor new research and promote best practice
- A service provider education and training program – to up skill and deliver interdisciplinary training across a wide range of health and community sector based professionals working with young people
- A community awareness program – to raise awareness of youth mental health issues, and promote mental health literacy and early help seeking
- A service enhancement and coordination scheme – to support sustainable local integrated approaches to enhance and facilitate the coordination of services for young people with mental health problems including those with associated drug and alcohol problems.

The target group for the Foundation is young people aged 12 – 25 years with any form of mental illness. Divisions will have an opportunity to play a key role in the delivery of education and training and in promoting service enhancements.

ADGP will keep you posted on developments and opportunities for Divisions.

For questions or more information contact Leanne Wells on (02) 6228 0854 or lwells@adgp.com.au or Jane Westley on (02) 6228 0844 or jwestley@adgp.com.au

MBS Templates

Recently the Medibank Private icon containing templates and referral forms for MBS items was removed from Medical Director (MD). ADGP has collated a number of the templates for downloading into MD.

If you have any templates you wish to share with the network please email them to ADGP.

For the templates go to http://www.adgp.com.au/site/index.cfm?module=DOCUMENTS&leca=16¤t_category_code=1734

USEFUL INFORMATION FROM BEYOND THE NETWORK

✚ Two National Health and Medical Research (NHMRC) funding opportunities:

1. Health Services Research Program Round 3: Call for Expressions of Interest (EOIs)

Total funding of \$20 million is now available for funding under the NHMRC's Health Services Research Program. The program funds research to inform key areas of health policy and practice to improve the quality of health care design and delivery in Australia.

EOIs are sought from **collaborative teams** wishing to conduct **cross-sectoral/cross disciplinary research**, and from teams **including investigators who would not normally apply for NHMRC grants**.

Applicants are encouraged to propose **innovative ways** to recruit and develop health services research expertise as well as producing **high quality strategic research**.

Proposals may range in size and scope and **must be completed in five years or less**. The **closing date is 4 May 2006**. Late applications will not be accepted.

Further information and relevant documentation is available from the NHMRC at: www.nhmrc.gov.au/funding/granttype/healthserv.htm for further assistance, contact robyn.cummins@nhmrc.gov.au or phone 02 6289 9163

2. Dementia Research Grants Round 1: Call for Expressions of Interest

Total funding of up to **\$10 million** will be available in round 1 for two and three year research proposals as part of the *Helping Australians with Dementia and their carers – making dementia a National Health Priority* initiative. This is an Australian Government initiative which aims to improve the quality of life for people with dementia and their carers through funding **collaborative, multidisciplinary and innovative research into dementia and dementia care**.

EOIs are sought from experienced researchers willing to **collaborate with other researchers, service providers and practitioners** to ensure translation of research outcomes into policy and practice. Four research themes have been identified:

- Early intervention and risk reduction
- Assessment, treatment and management
- Care and service
- Epidemiology and population health

Applications close 5.00pm AEST 11 May 2006. Late applications will not be considered.

Further information and documentation are available from the NHMRC at <http://www.nhmrc.gov.au/funding/apply/granttype/strategic/index.htm>. For further assistance contact sonya.oshea@health.gov.au or phone 02 6289 9142

✚ Medicare Australia's new initiatives.

As part of Medicare Australia's commitment to improving forms and services for health providers, a range of initiatives has been developed and will impact on all providers and affect 250 000 applications per year.

The initiatives include:

- A less complex provider number application form for new practice locations. The form will be available on Medicare Australia's website from April and from mid-May can be completed and submitted online; and
- A new dental provider number application form available from April – a form distilled from seven forms to one easy application available on Medicare Australia's website.

These initiatives build on recent improvements for health providers. Where a health provider is appropriately registered with Medicare Australia they can access Medicare Australia's Provider Directory System to do a range of business online. The Provider Directory System records information electronically about providers whose services directly or indirectly generate a claim for Medicare benefits. Health providers can:

- Close a practice location and protect themselves against inappropriate use of an open provider number that is no longer needed;
- Choose to receive communication from Medicare Australia via email; and
- View and update their details.
-

'PBS and You' CD-ROM A resource for new prescribers

Education for doctors new to the PBS is now available on a CD-ROM.

The resource is designed to help new prescribers acquire the skills and knowledge necessary to use PBS correctly.

The CD-ROM will supplement existing face-to-face education sessions offered by Medicare Australia to all new doctors. Where a doctor is unable to attend a session, the CD-ROM provides a standalone resource that allows for individual, self-paced learning and it will be distributed by mail.

There are 6 modules on the CD-ROM:

- Overview of the PBS
- Overview of the PBS costs
- The PBS and Your Practice
- The *Schedule of Pharmaceutical Benefits*
- Writing Prescriptions
- Medicare Australia: Its Services and You

To find out more about the 'PBS and You' CD-ROM or Medicare Australia's PBS education program for prescribers, please contact the Education Coordinator for your State or Territory:

ACT and NSW	02 9895 3206
NT and SA	08 8274 9363
TAS and VIC	03 9605 7162
QLD	07 3004 5395

Updated guide to investigation of breast symptoms

The National Breast Cancer Centre has released an updated guide to assist general practitioners in the investigation of breast symptoms.

The resource *The investigation of a new breast symptom: a guide for general practitioners* was revised under the direction of a multidisciplinary working group and has been updated to reflect the latest evidence and expert consensus opinion. The guide will be distributed to all general practitioners from March with funding provided by the Macquarie Bank Foundation.

Copies of the guides can also be ordered through the National Breast Cancer Centre's website www.nbcc.org.au or by calling 1800 624 973

✚ Join the Rural Health Education Foundation's Satellite Network

The Rural Health Education Foundation (RHEF) is Australia's health lifeline to the bush. Since 1992 the Foundation has been producing and broadcasting continuing professional development and medical programs for doctors, nurses, pharmacists and other health professionals in some of the country's most remote and otherwise isolated rural communities.

The RHEF is accredited by the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, the Australian College of Rural Remote Medicine, the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia and other professional associations.

The RHEF's Satellite Network broadcasts pre-recorded, live and interactive programs to 600 sites in rural, regional and remote locations across Australia. The Foundation also has an extensive catalogue of health and educational programs available on DVD and VHS.

For more information visit the website at www.rhef.com.au

If your organisation would like to join the RHEF's Satellite Network, please call 02 6232 5480 or email rhef@rhef.com.au

✚ Rural Health Education Foundation Diabetes Series available free on DVD and Video.

The complete series of three Rural Health Education Foundation programs on diabetes is now available for free on DVD and VHS video.

This free offer is provided with generous support from the Australian government Department of Health and Ageing as part of its aim to improve the prevention, detection, diagnosis and treatment of diabetes by delivering key educational materials to GPs and other health professionals.

The three diabetes programs are:

- Type 1 Diabetes (program 510 13 September 2005)
- Taking Action to Prevent Diabetes (program 317 18 November 2003)
- Diabetes: Identifying and Treating the Complications (program 304 18 March 2004)

To order your free DVD or VHS video call 02 6232 5840 or email rhef@rhef.com.au

✚ Rural Health Education Foundation - Live Satellite broadcast

Wednesday 26 April

Infectious Diseases: Management and Control

This program looks at the management and control of infectious diseases including practical advice for health professionals living and working in rural hospitals and local practices. Reference is to be made to the Australian government's revised Infection Control Guidelines.

Broadcast details:

Wednesday 26 April 2006

Originally broadcast in May 2004 and repeated on channel 23

6.00pm and 8.00pm in WA

7.30pm in SA & NT

8.00pm in ACT, NSW, QLD, TAS & VIC

For more details visit the <http://www.rhef.com.au/programs/403/403.html> program page.

Palliative Care Survey

Palliative Care Australia is conducting an extensive project entitled *Supporting Primary Care Providers in Palliative Care Project*. One goal of this project is to provide the Department of Health and Ageing with a recommendation regarding the feasibility of establishing a toll free number that General Practitioners might access in order to receive generic advice and consultation on opioid medications, pain management and symptom control for their patients receiving palliative care.

To achieve this goal, web based surveys were designed for the following target groups: Divisions of General Practice and General Practitioners.

It will take less than five minutes of your time and will assist us greatly.

The surveys are online at:

<http://apps.pallcare.org.au/NSurvey/Default.aspx?SurveyID=2> for GPs
<http://apps.pallcare.org.au/NSurvey/Default.aspx?SurveyID=3> for Divisions

For more information please contact: Cindee Richardson Project Manager Palliative Care Australia 02 6232 4433 or email cindee@pallcare.org.au

Inhaled respiratory medicines: optimising use in Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)

The Department of Veteran's Affairs and the Veterans' Medicines Advice & Therapeutics Education Services (MATES) Project team have prepared the sixth of ten scheduled modules for the Veterans' MATES project. In March 2006 the therapeutic brief and veteran brochure, along with other module-related materials, were mailed to 11 000 general practitioners who treat veterans with respiratory inhaled medicines and 5 400 pharmacies across Australia.

The sixth module **Inhaled respiratory medicines: optimising use in COPD** focuses on optimising inhaled respiratory medicine use in veteran patients diagnosed with COPD.

For more information, visit www.dva.gov.au/health/veteransmates.

NPS distills key points for medicines management of COPD

Quality use of medicines recommendations in the latest *NPS News: Managing COPD and preventing progression* focus on supporting health professionals to manage patients with Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease.

While many health professionals recognise the most important intervention to prevent or slow progression of COPD is smoking cessation, NPS's recent needs assessment has identified that prescribers and other health professionals will benefit from clarification of the roles of long-acting bronchodilators, inhaled corticosteroids in stable COPD and use of antibiotics during acute exacerbations.

Information on GP and pharmacist clinical audits, and copies of the NPS News and case study 42: *Managing COPD exacerbations* is currently available at www.nps.org.au/healthpro. Interested GPs can get further information on the upcoming COPD educational visiting program from NPS Facilitators in the 90 participating divisions of general practice.

For further information contact Anna Karelak on 02 8217 8700 (bh) 0419 618 365 Media Mobile or email her on akarelak@nps.org.au.

POSITIONS VACANT

✚ Divisions Development & Support Coordinator (Queensland Divisions of General Practice)

The Queensland Divisions of General Practice Association Incorporated (QDGP) seeks applications from motivated, highly skilled and experienced program coordinators for an important position within the organisation.

The Divisions Development and Support Coordinator will work as a member of the Division Support Team to coordinate the overall provision of support to Queensland Divisions, and in particular the development, implementation and evaluation of the Vaccine Management Project.

The successful applicant will possess highly developed written and verbal communication skills and demonstrated experience in the provision of health service program planning and implementation. A sound understanding of the primary health care environment and general practice will be highly regarded.

An attractive salary package will be negotiated with the successful applicant. A secondment arrangement from a relevant stakeholder organisation will be considered.

For a position description and selection criteria contact Kim Rogers on 07 3105 8300 or email krogers@gdgp.org.au.

Applications Close on Friday 28 April 2006

✚ Relationships Manager – Health Programs (Perth and Hills Division of General Practice)

Perth and Hills Division of General Practice (PHDGP) seeks to appoint a suitable skilled and experienced individual to this challenging and rewarding position.

Reporting to the Deputy CEO, the successful applicant will directly interact with General Practitioners, Practice Nurses and Practice Staff to provide a high quality information and support service and thereby build the capacity of General Practice to deliver excellent health outcomes for the community.

Candidates should be tertiary qualified or professionally accredited in a relevant discipline, have demonstrated experience in implementing health promotion/education/marketing activities in the health or human services area, and be committed to quality customer service.

Please apply online at www.beilby.com.au and quote reference number 13539

✚ Collaborative Program Manager - Brisbane South Division of General Practice

Brisbane South Division of General Practice is seeking a highly motivated individual to support the effective delivery and goals of the National Primary Care Collaborative (NPCC) chronic disease management strategy. The individual will be required to work closely with the NPCC team, the Division, practices, and other collaborative program managers to improve quality in primary health care and ensure shared learning and best practice across participating collaborative general practices.

This position is full time for 12 months to June 2007. Applications are sought from individuals seeking to 'create their mark' by contributing to this dynamic national health program. For more information contact the CEO, Ms Vicki Poxon at vpoxon@bsdgp.com.au or (07) 3274 1886. Applications will close 5pm Friday 5 May, 2006

CONFERENCES AND COURSES

✚ Conquering Chronic Disease: Managing the Battle

Sheraton Mirage Resort Port Douglas Saturday 22-23 April

The conference program includes a range of topics relating to the biggest primary health care concern in Australia today, Chronic Disease with workshops of interest to GPs, Practice Nurses, Practice Managers & Staff, Pharmacist, Allied Health Professionals and other interested health professionals.

Contact gpcairns@gpcairns.org.au or www.gpcairns.org.au or phone 07 4052 1699 for a registration form.

✚ The Jean Hailes Foundation for Women's Health

The Jean Hailes Foundation for Women's Health is partnering with Global Telehealth to provide an exciting three part series of professional development and education events delivered in person in Melbourne and via videoconference. The first event is **Monday 15 May for 6pm registration. Session commences at 6.30pm – 8pm** and will feature Professor Henry Burger and Professor Helena Teede as presenters.

This is a unique opportunity for general practitioners and allied health professionals to learn the latest findings on **Hormone Therapy and the Women's Health Initiative: lessons we have learnt, moving forward with an evidenced based approach** no matter where they are physically located.

The first 15 sites that are added to the event will not have to pay the \$250 registration fee.

Information on how to register your site to participate is available at http://www.jeanhailes.org.au/health_prof/hp_edu_gth.htm#reg
For a copy of the event flyer go to http://www.jeanhailes.org.au/health_prof/documents/2006_gthmay_6036-01_flyer.pdf

✚ National GPLO Conference

The 6th National GPLO Conference will be held this year in Melbourne on Wednesday 6 September at CROWN Palladium. This will precede the Australian Disease Management Association Conference to be held on 7-8 September (See <http://www.adma.org.au/>)

There will be a call for papers within the next few weeks.

For any queries please contact Lenora Lippmann at GPDV: Phone 03 93415200 or Email l.lippmann@gpdv.com.au

✚ Orientation to Rural & Remote Medicine Conference

Saturday 29 April – Monday 1 May 2006

Royal Brisbane & Women's Hospital Skills Development & Education Centres

Calling all rural medical practitioners, registrars, supervisors, medical advisors, regional training provider staff and students. Following the success of last years' inaugural program, ACRRM will soon be running another Orientation to Rural and Remote Medicine Conference. Incorporating a specifically rural program, this year's three day program will cover the latest innovations and updates in rural and remote clinical practice and regional training as well as offering hands on clinical skills training and up-skilling opportunities:

To view the program for the event, or to register please visit the ACRRM web site at www.acrrm.org.au/main.asp?NodeID=27202. For further information contact Maggie Bryan on free call 1800 223 226 or email m.bryan@acrrm.org.au or visit the web site at www.acrrm.org.au

Trauma 2006

28 September – 1 October 2006
Gold Coast

It is anticipated that more than 400 delegates will attend this world class scientific program focusing on key topics and the latest developments in trauma management from the hospital to rehabilitation, including updates on injury management from disaster incidents.

Abstracts may be submitted on any subject relevant to trauma management. The session themes currently nominated include:

- Trauma updates and new practices
- Is it time for Trauma to be recognised as a specialty?
- Prevention
- Changing clinical practice roles
- Disasters and trauma (blast injuries, natural hazards)
- Paediatric and Geriatric trauma
- The military civilian interface – the future
- Rehabilitation – how early is early enough? The Rehabilitation Physician as part of the Acute Care Trauma Service
- Clinical care validation – effects of education
- Education and training models – teams, simulation, courses, sustainability
- Training vs Competency

Authors are invited to submit abstracts electronically via the Trauma 2006 web site until **30 May 2006** for consideration by the scientific program committee for oral and/or poster presentation.

For more information go to www.trauma2006.com or email info@trauma2006.com

National SARRAH Conference

13-16 September 2006
Albury Convention Centre

A Conference for Rural and Remote Allied Health Professionals.

Registration now open and full program available.

For more information visit www.sarrah.org.au

CONTACT THE EDITOR

Information in this newsletter is for the use and benefit of all members of SBOs and Divisions, so please pass it on, and recycle the whole, or parts, of this publication to your members with due acknowledgement to ADGP.

If SBOs, Divisions and other readers have information for, or comments on, *ADGP News* please contact either

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[BACK TO TOP](#)