

The gpa fortnightly update is posted on our website www.gpasouthgippsland.com.au
If you would like to be included on the email distribution list, please contact Mandy M at GPA on 5674 0900.

RVEE Voice Analysis Clinic referrals

The Royal Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital is pleased to inform you that the multidisciplinary Voice Analysis Clinic accepts new referrals for patients with complex or persistent voice and/or throat difficulties (including chronic cough and laryngeal dysfunction).

Please include the following information in the referral:

- Statement that referral is for **Voice Analysis Clinic**
- Reason for referral
- Onset and nature of the disorder
- Relevant medical and psychosocial information, including medications
- Need for interpreter

Waiting times for this clinic are currently very short and there is no cost to attend the clinic. Referrals can be sent by GPs or speech pathologists to our Outpatient Bookings Unit by **fax 9929 8404** or mail: **Locked bag 8, East Melbourne, 8002.**

For more information about this clinic please phone the Speech Pathology Department on (03) 9929 8223 or email sheryl.mailing@eyeandear.org.au

Access to Health Services

The Rural Doctors Association of Australia (RDAA) and National Rural Health Alliance (NRHA) are urging all people who live in rural and remote Australia to fill out a five-minute online survey about access to health services in their communities. Those completing the survey by midnight on Sunday 15 August 2010 will enter the draw to win an Apple iPad.

The national survey aims to determine the level of access to health services available to those who live in the bush and their expectations about access to healthcare. RDAA President, Dr Nola Maxfield, said: "This survey is about assessing people's satisfaction with access to healthcare in their local area, so RDAA and NRHA can better lobby for more healthcare resources. "We want participants to feel they can be frank about the access to healthcare they have in their community, without feeling that they are in any way being critical of their local doctors, nurses or other healthcare professionals. "It is more about the system itself, finding out how satisfied you are with the number of healthcare professionals you have available in your town and whether you believe you have adequate local access to hospital and other health services. "It gives all rural Australians an opportunity to provide feedback on key issues regarding access to healthcare, such as how long you have to wait for an appointment and how far you have to travel to access healthcare for a range of conditions."

NRHA Executive Director, Gordon Gregory, said: "In this day and age, all Australians should have access to local health services whether they are having a heart attack, are injured in a farming or road accident, are having a baby, or need ongoing treatment for a long-term chronic illness. This should include the one-third of all Australians who live in the bush. The survey will help us gather up-to-date information on just how hard it is for rural and remote Australians to get to see doctors, nurses, midwives, dentists, physios and a range of other health professionals, so we can make the case for better supports to entice more of these much-needed professionals to country areas."

To complete the survey, go to www.ultrafeedback.com/survey/994 or see the links on the front pages of www.rdaa.com.au or www.ruralhealth.org.au

All information collected will remain confidential and will be for the use of RDAA and the NRHA only. The survey has been supported and developed by UltraFeedback.

Refugee Health Series For GPs, Refugee Health Nurses and Practice Nurses

The series has a total of five sessions, with the third session to take place on Wednesday 11 August, 7.15pm - 9.15pm (light meal from 6.45pm) at Foundation House, 6 Gardiner Street, Brunswick.

Remaining Program Topics

- Wednesday 11 August Sexual Health and STI's (at Foundation House, Brunswick)
- Wednesday 8 September Paediatrics/Development Issues (at Dandenong)
- Wednesday 10 November Mental Health Issues in Refugees (at Brunswick)

40 Category One ALM points applied for GPs; and Category two points will also be available for single sessions. To be eligible for active learning points, **GPs need to attend a minimum of three sessions** and fulfil active learning requirements.

Enquiries: Dr I-Hao Cheng, Dandenong Casey GP Network ph: 8792 1900; Kay Dufty, Northern Division ph: 8480 4609; Sonia Zahra, Pivot West ph: 9689 4566; Louise Crowe, Foundation House ph: 9389 8909.

GP10 - early bird registration ends 4 August

GP10, the RACGP and Australian Association of Practice Managers (AAPM) combined annual conference, will be held in Cairns from 6-9 October. Early bird discounts are available until 4 August. Visit www.gp10.com.au

Hepatitis C

s100 Prescriber Course

Date: Sunday 5 September 2010
Time: 8:30am - 5:00pm
Location: The Seminar Room, AMREP Education Centre, The Alfred Hospital, Commercial Rd, Melbourne

Increasing access to *hepatitis C* treatment.

Details of course/content: This one-day course is developed and delivered jointly by General Practice Victoria, the Australasian Society for HIV Medicine, and the Alfred Hospital's Infectious Diseases Unit.

Upon completion of the pre-disposing activity (review of material covering epidemiology and basic science), attendees of this largely interactive workshop will be provided with a detailed overview of chronic hepatitis C infection and its management, including risk assessment, diagnosis, co-morbidities, suitability and preparation for treatment, and monitoring during treatment.

Medical practitioners successfully completing this course and associated activities (case study based assessment, clinical placement) and satisfying their state or territory's accreditation criteria may be certified to prescribe s100 antiviral therapy for hepatitis C under shared care arrangements (only in those states with a formal HCV shared care program-please contact organisers listed below if in doubt).

Cost of course: Free of charge.

This activity has been approved by the RACGP QA&CPD Program and allocated 40 (Category 1) points.



Register online at: www.ashm.org.au/courses
Registrations close: Wed 25/08/2010

Contact organisers for further details and registration enquiries:
VIC: Soenke Tremper (s.tremper@gpv.org.au; Ph 03 9341 5236);
NSW: Sonja Hill (Sonja.hill@ashm.org.au; Ph 02 8204 0724)



Australian Government
Department of Health and Ageing





ashm
Australasian Society for HIV Medicine

www.ashm.org.au/courses

Fortnightly Edition

General Practice Alliance – South Gippsland 5674 0900 www.gpasouthgippsland.com.au

Building a healthy community

Type 2 Diabetes Prevention Program

To find out more or enrol call NOW: 56719200

Days and Dates	Time
Tuesday 17 August & Tuesday 31 August 2010	1pm to 3pm
Tuesday 14 September & Tuesday 28 September 2010	1pm to 3pm
Tuesday 12 October 2010	1pm to 3pm
Tuesday April 2011 TBA	1pm to 3pm

Where Corinella and District Community Centre,
48 Smythe Street Corinella 3984

Life! Taking Action on Diabetes is a type 2 diabetes prevention program. Run by a health professional, small groups of up to 15 people, program is tailored to you and proven to work in preventing or delaying type 2 diabetes. This Victorian Government initiative is targeted towards people 50 years* and over. It is a lifestyle behaviour change course of six group sessions, run over a period of eight months. The program has been developed by Diabetes Australia - Vic.

Contact the Bass Coast Community Health Service reception staff to book your spot with Paul Greenhalgh, Primary Care Nurse 56719200
Call 13RISK (137475) or www.diabetesrisk.org.au for other locations

*ATSI population >18yrs and others over 40 may also attend under Federal Government funding.

Nursing Conferences

AONA Victoria presents

iNurse - Biennial Conference

Mantra on Russell, 222 Russell Street, Melbourne
Saturday 4th September, 8.30am
Register on line at www.aonavic.com.au

RCNA presents

Community & Primary Health Care Nursing Conference

Nursing Innovation & Leadership in Primary Health Care: Directions for the Future

Crowne Plaza, Alice Springs
24 - 26 October 2010

Call for Abstracts closing soon - contact Emma Rice, Events Project Officer p: 1800 061 660

e. events@rcna.org.au

w: <http://www.rcna.org.au/conferences/cphcc/welcome>

International Nurse Practitioner/Advanced Practice Nursing Network (INP/APNN) Conference

INP/APNN Conference 2010

Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre
8 - 11 September 2010

Contact Emma Rice, Events Project Officer
p: 1800 061 660 e. events@rcna.org.au

w: <http://www.rcna.org.au/conferences/inpapnn>

Health Service staff grants

The Department of Health and the Victorian Healthcare Association (VHA) are pleased to announce two grant programs that are open to health service staff in Victoria.

Student Supervision Grants

The 2010 Student Supervision Grants are a Department of Health initiative designed to support the ongoing development of student supervision and clinical education skills amongst health service staff. Grants of up to \$10,000 per application are available to assist participating facilities to provide opportunities for their employees to undertake training in student supervision.

The 2010 funding round builds upon the success of the 2009 Clinical Supervision Grants Program. For further information, and to access application documentation, please visit: <http://www.vha.org.au/ssgp.html>

Management Training Grants

Management Training Grants are available to support opportunities for formal skill development for health service staff. Grants of up to \$10,000 per organisation (and up to \$50,000 per application when organisations work in partnership) are available to increase the skills and knowledge of staff in management positions, or those entering management roles.

The Management Training Grants Program is a new Department of Health initiative in 2010. For further information, and to access application documentation, please visit:

<http://www.vha.org.au/managementgrants.html>

If you have any further questions, please contact the VHA directly on 03 9094 7777 or

scholarships@vha.org.au