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For the latest news on the *Closing the Gap* programs click [here](#) for the Aboriginal Health Update...

## HEALTH WARNINGS

### Influenza Update for General Practitioners – Winter 2011

The key measures in managing influenza this year are:

**Practice good infection control** – for staff and patients with coughs and sneezes.

**Vaccinate patients and staff** – especially for those in high-risk groups.

#### Situation update

There are signs of increasing activity in some parts of NSW and elsewhere in Australia.

- The strains that predominated in Europe and Asia were pandemic A H1N1 (2009) and influenza B.
- In North America, influenza A H3N2 viruses were more common.

It is likely that all three of influenza strains virus will circulate in NSW during the 2011 winter flu season. Influenza viruses characterized to date are well matched to the three current vaccine strains.

#### Vaccinate patients and staff

Promote seasonal influenza vaccination, particularly for those in high-risk groups (who are eligible for free vaccine), and staff members. For children, please note that:

- Influvac® and Vaxigrip® are recommended for use in children between 6 months to less than 5 years.
- Fluvax® is NOT registered for use in children less than 5 years of age in 2011.
- For children aged 5 year to less than 10 years of age, Vaxigrip® and Influvac® are recommended.

#### Further Information

Seasonal influenza resources and updates are available at: [www.health.nsw.gov.au/publichealth/Infectious/influenza](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/publichealth/Infectious/influenza). This website includes “Spread of Flu is up to you” Winter Flu campaign resources, and information on the use of influenza antivirals and how to collect nose and throat swabs for testing. Seasonal influenza vaccine updates and ordering are available at: [www.health.nsw.gov.au/publichealth/immunisation/](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/publichealth/immunisation/). Contact your local Public Health Unit for further information

### Meningococcal peak season

NSW Health has urged the public to be alert for the early symptoms of meningococcal disease as the peak season is set to begin. Meningococcal disease is an infection that causes meningitis (inflammation of the lining of the brain and spinal cord) and severe blood infection. The disease occurs more commonly in winter, with 19 cases reported to health authorities last winter. In 2010, a total of 74 meningococcal disease cases reported in NSW and tragically five of these cases were fatal. There have been 28 cases reported in NSW so far this year. NSW Health Director of Health Protection Dr Jeremy McNulty said people should look out for signs of the disease and anyone with symptoms must seek medical help immediately.

See media release [http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/news/2011/20110607\\_02.html](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/news/2011/20110607_02.html)

For a fact sheet visit: [www.health.nsw.gov.au/factsheets/infectious/meningococcal.html](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/factsheets/infectious/meningococcal.html) or go to [www.health.nsw.gov.au](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au).



## HEALTH REFORM UPDATE

### First Tranche of Medicare Locals for NSW

The first of Australia's new network of primary health care organisations – Medicare Locals – will be up and running from 1 July 2011. This first group has been drawn from high performing Divisions of General Practice, many working in consortia with other organisations, with established records in improving primary health care for their local community, and strong plans to improve local primary care services into the future. Each Medicare Local will be a locally run, independent non-government organisation, funded by the Australian Government. Each will have its own region and be responsive to local primary health care needs. Profiles of the first NSW Medicare Locals can be found here:

- [Western Sydney Medicare Local](#)
- [Hunter Urban Medicare Local](#)
- [New England Medicare Local](#)
- [Murrumbidgee Medicare Local](#)

### COAG Reform Council - National healthcare agreement performance report 09–10

The Council of Australian Governments has released its National healthcare agreement performance report 09–10. Some of the key points of this report relevant to primary care include:

- Almost 40 per cent of Australians were not able to see a GP within four hours—14 per cent were not able to see a GP within 24 hours. This proportion increased as remoteness increased—consistent with this finding, people living in remote and outer regional areas felt that their waiting times for GPs were too long. By age, people aged 25–34 reported the highest rates of being able to see a GP quickly, though conversely were also the most likely to feel that their waiting times were too long.
- It is unclear whether four hours is an excessive wait to see a GP. Unlike elective surgery and emergency department care, there is not an accepted standard approach to reporting waiting times for GPs.
- The cost of health care was a barrier for some Australians—one million people reported deferring their visit to a GP because of cost, while more than 500 000 reported deferring seeing a specialist because of the cost. More than one million people who were prescribed medication deferred buying it because of the cost—with the rate being significantly higher among the most disadvantaged.
- Child immunisation rates have increased, as have rates of developmental health checks for young children.

Read more: [http://www.coagreformcouncil.gov.au/reports/docs/nha\\_09-10/nha\\_09-10\\_vol1.pdf](http://www.coagreformcouncil.gov.au/reports/docs/nha_09-10/nha_09-10_vol1.pdf)

### After hours GP helpline

Medibank has been appointed to be the operator for the Australian Governments new *after hours GP helpline* that is due to commence on 1 July and has already recruited over 100 doctors. The *after hours GP helpline* will be added to existing telephone-based nurse triage, information and advice services currently available across the country. The *after hours GP helpline* will be complemented by the new Medicare Locals which will also start to operate from 1 July and will have a key role in coordinating face-to-face after-hours care.

[http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/00380EC30FABA1CDCA2578A300069A66/\\$File/nr112.pdf](http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/00380EC30FABA1CDCA2578A300069A66/$File/nr112.pdf)



## Rebates for Online Consultations

Patients in remote, regional and outer metropolitan areas face greater barriers to accessing specialist services than those in city areas. The Commonwealth Government has announced the *Connecting Health Services with the Future: Modernising Medicare by Providing Rebates for Online Consultations* initiative. This initiative will:

- commence on 1 July 2011;
- provide Medicare rebates for telehealth services provided to patients in regional, remote and outer metropolitan areas, and in aged care facilities and eligible Aboriginal Medical Services throughout Australia;
- provide Medicare rebates for an eligible health care provider to provide clinical services at the patient end of the video consultation; and
- provide financial incentives to encourage the uptake of telehealth services.

New Medicare items will allow a range of existing consultation services to be provided via video conferencing and additional rebates on top of these items recognise the increased complexity of providing a service to a remote patient. There will be a 50% additional rebate for the specialist service and a 35% additional rebate for the service provided by the practitioner at the patient end. "We recognise the time, complexity and administration involved in telehealth services so rebates will now also be available for the health professional located with the patient including GPs, nurse practitioners, midwives, practice nurses and Aboriginal health workers," Minister Roxon said. [Media release](#).

## POLICY

### First Steps towards National Mental Health Commission

The first steps are being taken towards establishment of the nation's first National Mental Health Commission, Minister for Mental Health and Ageing Mark Butler said today - welcoming the appointment of Robyn Kruk as Chief Executive Officer designate of the new Commission. To view the full media release, select the link below:

<http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/mr-yr11-mb-mb050.htm>

### 33 healthier lifestyle projects nation-wide

The Minister for Health and Ageing recently announced that 33 local governments around the country will receive funding to run programs that will encourage and support people to adopt and sustain healthier lifestyles. Each local government will receive a grant of more than \$700,000 as part of the Gillard Government's \$72 million Healthy Communities Initiative, which aims to support local governments to promote healthy lifestyles in the community.

<http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/mr-yr11-nr-nr117.htm>

### Important Advice for GPs - NSW Quitline Service

#### Proof of counselling program enrolment not necessary when completing a prescription authority for nicotine replacement patches

The NSW Quitline has seen a surge in demand for their service since Nicotine Replacement Therapy (NRT) Patches were added to the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) earlier this year. This has led some GPs to advise their patients that they cannot write them a script until they have "registered" with a counselling program, such as Quitline. As a result, a large number of people have been contacting the Quitline wanting to register and requiring some form of proof, such as, a registration number. The PBS has confirmed that „proof“ is not required. Listing the name of a program or service such as Quitline can be done while the patient is in consultation obtaining the prescription. The Quitline encourages General Practitioners to continue referring smokers, particularly when prescribing NRT, Zyban and Champix.



## RESOURCES

### Launch of Health Statistics NSW website

<http://www.healthstats.doh.health.nsw.gov.au/>



The [Health Statistics NSW website](http://www.healthstats.doh.health.nsw.gov.au/) is an initiative coordinated by Dr Kerry Chant, Deputy Director -General, Population Health, NSW Health. The interactive web-based application allows users to tailor data about the health of the NSW population for their own use through simple point and click menus. It provides information on the demography and health status of our community and current challenges, inequities and trends in health and the determinants of health.

### New SANE Australia Research Bulletin - Parenting and mental illness: the early years

How do Australians with a mental illness fare when they become parents? How well are they supported during pregnancy and the early years – by maternal and child health services and by mental health services – and what action is needed to improve care . . . ? Find out in this new research bulletin.

SANE research bulletin: [http://www.sane.org/images/stories/information/research/1102\\_info\\_rb13.pdf](http://www.sane.org/images/stories/information/research/1102_info_rb13.pdf)

### NSW Model of Care for Osteoporotic Refracture Prevention

The Agency of Clinical Innovation and its Musculoskeletal Network has launched a new model of care developed to prevent the risk of repeat fractures in patients with osteoporosis. It is estimated that 2.2 million Australians have osteoporosis, which affects half of all women aged over 60 and one in three older men. About half of all patients who have one osteoporotic bone fracture will have another. The NSW Model of Care for Osteoporotic Refracture Prevention is an easy-to-use guide to best practice care. Early identification of people in NSW who have osteoporosis is a critical component of the new model of care because it will enable early treatment, which can reduce further fractures by up to 50%. It aims to ensure that all patients presenting with brittle bone fracture are assessed and offered advice and treatment to prevent further fractures. This may include bone density scanning, measurement of Vitamin D and calcium levels and thyroid function, disease management advice and self-management support.

The model of care can be accessed through the following link: [NSW Model of Care for Osteoporotic Refracture Prevention](#)

### About GP Australia

This GP Australia website has been developed to help junior doctors explore the world of general practice. It is an essential tool for any junior doctor considering a career in general practice.

See: <http://www.gpaustralia.org.au/>



## RESEARCH

### Report of the evaluation of the Blue Mountains GP network chronic disease self-management project

The Blue Mountains GP Network (BMGPN) received funding from the Federal Department of Health and Ageing through the Chronic Disease Self-Management/Lifestyle and Risk Modification Grants program to implement the Chronic Disease Self-Management Project.

The BMGPN Chronic Disease Self-Management Project developed a number of objectives and initiatives aimed at increasing awareness of self-management programs and techniques in the local area, including implementing 'Moving On', a generic self-management course developed by Arthritis NSW and designed to increase people's knowledge and skills to enable them to self-manage their chronic conditions more effectively. The Moving On program was structured into seven sessions conducted over seven weeks in three hour blocks. The sessions covered: managing fatigue and physical activity; healthy eating and leisure; coping; stress management; relaxation; sleeping; medications and working with the health care team. Each Moving On session was facilitated by a health professional and a lay leader. The lay leader was someone with a chronic condition who could provide input from their personal experience and could provide a positive role model for participants. The health professional leader contributes their technical knowledge and skills plus ensures that information was evidence-based, verifiable and correct.

This evaluation and associated report of the BMGPN Chronic Disease Self-Management Project was undertaken by members of the Serious Continuing Illness Policy and Practice Study team based at the Menzies Centre for Health Policy, University of Sydney.

[http://www.menzieshealthpolicy.edu.au/other\\_tops/pdfs\\_pubs/bmevaluation270411.pdf](http://www.menzieshealthpolicy.edu.au/other_tops/pdfs_pubs/bmevaluation270411.pdf)

### Medicine in Australia: Balancing Employment and Life (MABEL) Longitudinal Survey of Doctors - Data release 2

The MABEL survey is a longitudinal panel survey of Australian doctors launched in 2008 aimed at investigating doctors' workforce participation patterns and their determinants. The second data release is now available. This includes the first two waves of data. Wave 1 (2008) data includes 10,498 doctors and Wave 2 (2009) includes 10,304 doctors, including GPs, specialists, hospital non-specialists (e.g. interns and medical officers), and specialists-in-training. An updated user manual which contains background information to the MABEL survey, methods, data dictionary and new features of Wave 2 is also available to assist data users. MABEL is funded by the National Health and Medical Research Council.

MABEL website: [www.mabel.org.au](http://www.mabel.org.au).

### Less than half take home bowel cancer test despite high awareness

*Less than half of those who have heard of FOBT have done the test (41%) AND Less than ¼ of those aged 50+ recall their GP mentioning bowel screening.*

New Cancer Council research shows although more than 80% of people aged 50+ are aware of a simple, at-home screening test for bowel cancer, less than half of those aware of FOBT have actually done the test. The research, conducted in Victoria, also found that most respondents (75%) could not recall their GP ever mentioning the faecal occult blood test (FOBT) to them. FOBT is recommended for all Australians 50+ every two years. Under the government's National Bowel Cancer Screening Program, the test is provided free for people turning 50, 55 and 65. It is also available for purchase from other sources, such as pharmacies. Bowel cancer is this nation's second biggest cancer killer after lung cancer, yet 90% of cases can be cured if found early. It's important those aged 50+ have access to screening, and that everyone is aware of symptoms, regardless of age, so they can report any unusual changes to their doctor.

<http://www.cancer.org.au/Newsmedia/mediareleases/mediareleases2011/8June2011.htm>



## Hospital and emergency department use in the last year of life: a baseline for future modifications to end-of-life care

Lorna K Rosenwax, Beverley A McNamara, Kevin Murray, et al

To describe hospital and emergency department use in the last year of life by people for whom death from cancer or one of another nine conditions was an expected outcome.

Those with cancer spent less time in hospital than those with other diagnoses. Seventy per cent of the cohort had at least one emergency presentation. On the last day of life, 61.5% of people were in hospital and 4.0% had been seen in emergency departments.

Identifying patterns of emergency and inpatient use for various disease trajectories will assist in the planning of appropriate services for people where death is an expected outcome.

MJA 2011; 194: 570–573

[http://www.mja.com.au/public/issues/194\\_11\\_060611/ros11093\\_fm.pdf](http://www.mja.com.au/public/issues/194_11_060611/ros11093_fm.pdf)

## Australian Institute of Health and Welfare Reports

### *Mandatory folic acid and iodine fortification in Australia and New Zealand - Baseline report for monitoring*

The Australia and New Zealand Food Regulation Ministerial Council requested that Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ) consider mandatory folic acid fortification to help reduce the incidence of neural tube defects, and mandatory iodine fortification to tackle the re-emergence of iodine deficiency in the population. In response, FSANZ developed two mandatory standards, effective from October 2009, which require the addition of folic acid to bread-making flour in Australia, and iodine (via iodised salt) to bread in Australia and New Zealand. This report presents key baseline data for monitoring mandatory folic acid and iodine fortification in Australia and New Zealand. Data are presented for each component of the fortification monitoring frameworks as follows: food composition; folic acid and iodine intake; folic acid and iodine status of the populations; and health outcomes.

<http://www.aihw.gov.au/publication-detail/?id=10737418875>

### *The health of Australian males*

Drawing on a wide range of data sources, this report provides a snapshot of the health of Australia's males. Examples of the report's detailed findings include: males born between 2007-2009 can expect to live 24 years longer than males born between 1901-1910; around two-thirds of adult males and one-quarter of boys are overweight or obese; nearly half have ever had a mental health condition; nearly one-quarter have a disability and nearly one-third have a chronic health condition; 16% of males do not use any Medicare services in a year.

Click on the link to view the [media release](#) and [report](#).

### *Older people leaving hospital - a statistical overview of the Transition Care Program in 2008-09*

This report presents key statistics on the characteristics and services provided to older people who are eligible for residential aged care directly after discharge from hospital. The program aims to improve recipients' independence and functioning. At 30 June 2009 there were 2,228 places providing transitional care to older people leaving hospital. During 2008-09, around 12,600 individuals received just over 14,000 episodes of transition care.

<http://www.aihw.gov.au/publication-detail/?id=10737419112&tab=2>



## *Young Australians: their health and wellbeing 2011*

This report is the fourth in a series of national statistical reports on young people aged 12-24 years, produced by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare. It provides the latest available information on how Australia's young people are faring according to a set of national indicators of health and wellbeing. Death rates have fallen considerably among young people, mainly due to declines in injury deaths. Most young people are achieving national minimum standards for reading, writing and numeracy, are fully engaged in study or work, and have strong support networks. There are some favourable trends in risk and protective factors, such as declines in smoking and illicit substance use. But it is not all good news. There is a high rate of mental disorders among young people, and road transport accidents, although continuing to decline, are still a major cause of death among young males. Too many young people are overweight or obese, are not doing sufficient physical activity or eating enough fruit and vegetables, and are drinking alcohol at risky levels. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people are far more likely to be disadvantaged across a broad range of indicators.

Click on the link to view the [media release](#) and [report](#).

## GET INVOLVED

### Important message to Divisions of General Practice

Epilepsy Australia and Epilepsy New Zealand are working together to investigate epilepsy in general practice. They are seeking to understand how GPs currently approach the care of epilepsy and to identify the resources they believe are necessary and appropriate to support them in their care of patients with epilepsy. Please help them by including the survey link in your newsletters to general practices throughout June and early July. A suggested paragraph is included below:

#### ***Epilepsy in general practice***

*Epilepsy Australia and Epilepsy New Zealand want to know about epilepsy in general practice. Take the **one minute** survey for GPs and go into the draw to win one of three 3M Littmann Electronic Stethoscopes Model 3200 ([www.littmann.com.au](http://www.littmann.com.au)).*

*Click on the link, or type it into your browser to start the survey.*

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/epilepsyaustraliaGP>

*The survey will run until 22 July 2011.*

If you would like more information please contact Dr Rosey Panelli (project coordinator) on +61 (0) 438 931 120) or at [rpanelli@epilepsyaustralia.net](mailto:rpanelli@epilepsyaustralia.net).

## EDUCATION

### NSW Rural and Remote Clinical Team Leadership 2011

Applications are now being invited from ten teams consisting of a GP/VMO and a local health service staff member to participate in facilitated leadership development. They are looking for those who want to:

- enhance team leadership, communication, critical thinking and self evaluation skills;
- increase their ability to work more effectively with clinical information and resources; and
- refine their culture of patient centred care.

'Program pairs' will be supported to attend eight workshop days in Sydney. Workshop dates are 15/16 Aug, 5/6 Sept, 17/18 Oct, and 28/29 Nov. **Applications Close on 20 June 2011.**

Application form available at: [www.ruralceti.health.nsw.gov.au](http://www.ruralceti.health.nsw.gov.au).



## Hepatitis Training for GPs and Health Care Professionals with Aboriginal Clients

ASHM are holding a *Hepatitis Training for GPs and Health Care Professionals with Aboriginal Clients* in the Sydney area. Two training sessions have been developed, the first targeting Nurses and aboriginal health workers and the second General Practitioners.

This course provides an overview of the testing principles, treatment, natural history, epidemiology, support and management of hepatitis B and C infections in Aboriginal people. A culturally competent approach will underpin the case study discussions. Participants will be encouraged to share their experiences. This is a FREE course with funding provided by Department of NSW Health and is accredited for 6 Category 2 QI & CPD Points.

Contact Maya Lindsay on 02 8204 0705 or [maya.lindsay@ashm.org.au](mailto:maya.lindsay@ashm.org.au) for further details. To register online go to: [www.ashm.org.au/courses](http://www.ashm.org.au/courses).

## APNA Learning online

These online courses have been designed specifically for Primary Health Care Nurses. The STI and Blood Borne Virus module is available free for first 100 NSW practice nurses.

For more information go to: [www.apna.asn.au/onlinelearning](http://www.apna.asn.au/onlinelearning)



## WORKSHOPS & CONFERENCES 2011

JUNE	
<b>30</b>	<p><b>NSW Divisions Network Accreditation Meeting.</b> This meeting is for Division staff who provide accreditation support for General Practice. Thursday 30 June at 12.30pm – 4.30pm Venue: South Eastern Sydney Division – Level 2, 6-8 Crewe place, Rosebery Speakers: Judy Evans, RACGP eHealth Program Manager and Nathan Pinskiar, NEHTA Clinical Lead (2.00pm -3.30pm) Registration: by 24 June to <a href="mailto:jacquelineowens@gpnsw.com.au">jacquelineowens@gpnsw.com.au</a> (spaces are limited to 20 ppl)</p>
JULY	
<p><b>1 (Bathurst)</b> <b>3 (video-conference)</b> <b>22 (Newcastle)</b></p>	<p><b>NSW Infection Control Guidelines Implementation Workshops</b> 1 July - Bathurst, 3 July - Videoconference Workshop Presentation , 22 July - Newcastle These free workshops support the implementation of the <b>Australian Guidelines for the Prevention and Control of Infection in Healthcare</b>, to be held in <b>Bathurst</b> and <b>Newcastle</b> during July 2011. The purpose of the workshops is to :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• establish the context for the revised Australian Infection Control Guidelines</li> <li>• introduce the AICG, the key messages, and the risk management framework</li> <li>• overview issues in guideline implementation</li> <li>• introduce the OSSIE framework for implementation</li> <li>• provide participants with tools and resources to assist implementation</li> <li>• provide participants with an opportunity to gain practical experience using some of the tools from the OSSIE toolkit.</li> </ul> <p>Information: Sally Bates, Project Support Officer Clinical Safety, Quality and Governance Branch at NSW Department of Health at <a href="mailto:sbate@doh.health.nsw.gov.au">sbate@doh.health.nsw.gov.au</a>.</p>
<b>3 - 10</b>	<p><b>Naidoc Week 2011 - Change: the Next Step is Ours</b> 3 – 10 July 2011 For entry forms and information on NAIDOC Week, visit <a href="http://www.naidoc.org.au/">http://www.naidoc.org.au/</a></p>
<b>22 - 23</b>	<p><b>Pain Management Symposium</b> 22 &amp; 23 July 2011 Day 1: The Problem of Pain, Day 2: Oro facial Pain Pain Management Research Institute Information: T +61 (0)2 9926 7386 E <a href="mailto:ros.wyllie@sydney.edu.au">ros.wyllie@sydney.edu.au</a> <a href="http://sydney.edu.au/medicine/pmri">sydney.edu.au/medicine/pmri</a></p>
<b>29 - 30</b>	<p><b>NSW Rural Doctors Network 2011 Anaesthetics Procedural Conference</b> 29 - 30 July 2011 Venue: North Sydney Harbourview Hotel Cost: GPs \$990 CPD/PDP: RACGP CPD Points and ACRRM PDP Points have been applied for. CPD Point allocation is not guaranteed and is subject to review by RACGP and ACRRM. This activity qualifies for a two day Anaesthetics Procedural Grant To register for the conference download the program from the NSW RDN website at <a href="http://www.nswrdn.com.au">www.nswrdn.com.au</a> under 'Conferences/CPD Events'. Contact: NSW Rural Doctors Network - 02 8337 8100 or <a href="mailto:conferences@nswrdn.com.au">conferences@nswrdn.com.au</a></p>



<b>30 - 31</b>	<p><b>Monash University Office Procedures Workshop 1</b> 30-31 July: Brisbane or 19-20 November: Melbourne Essential learning to improve your surgical techniques for ingrown toenails, joint injection etc Information: <b>Contact 07 3137 1399</b> or <a href="http://www.healthcert.com.au">www.healthcert.com.au</a></p>
<b>30 - 31</b>	<p><b>University of Queensland Certificate in Advanced Dermoscopy and Dermal Imaging</b> 30-31 July: Brisbane Update knowledge and skills regarding skin cancer <b>Contact 07 3137 1399</b> or <a href="http://www.healthcert.com.au">www.healthcert.com.au</a></p>
<b>AUGUST</b>	
<b>5 - 6</b>	<p><b>Annual Skin Cancer Conference</b> For general practitioners 5 - 6 August (optional workshops 4/7 August) Hamilton Island Information: 07 3137 1399 or <a href="http://www.healthcert.com.au">www.healthcert.com.au</a></p>
<b>16 - 18</b>	<p><b>Closing the Gap Workshop</b> 16 - 18 August Host: GP NSW Venue: TBA Information: Wendy Campbell at <a href="mailto:wendycampbell@gpnsw.com.au">wendycampbell@gpnsw.com.au</a></p>
<b>20</b>	<p><b>Choose to be Challenged - Conference</b> 20 August 2011 Host: Family Planning NSW Venue: Aerial UTS Function Centre, Level 7, Building 10, 235 Jones Street, Ultimo Information on speakers and registration: <a href="http://www.fpnsw.org.au/choosetobechallenged2011">www.fpnsw.org.au/choosetobechallenged2011</a>.</p>
<b>22</b>	<p><b>Teaching strategies for supervisors of international medical graduates</b> Sydney 22 August Information: contact JM&amp;A on 03 9671 4788 or <a href="mailto:info@jm-a.com.au">info@jm-a.com.au</a>.</p>
<b>23</b>	<p><b>Increasing clinical effectiveness: Workshops for international medical graduates</b> <b>23 August</b> Sydney For more information, please contact JM&amp;A on: 03 9671 4788 or <a href="mailto:info@jm-a.com.au">info@jm-a.com.au</a></p>
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>	
<b>6 - 9</b>	<p><b>21st annual TheMHS Conference - Resilience in Change</b> Dates: 6 – 9 September 2011 Venue: Adelaide Convention Centre, Adelaide, South Australia Further Details: <a href="http://www.themhs.org">http://www.themhs.org</a> Email: <a href="mailto:info@themhs.org">info@themhs.org</a></p>
<b>19 - 22</b>	<p><b>2011 National Men's Health Gathering</b> 19 - 22 September 2011 Perth, Western Australia The 2011 National Men's Health Gathering provides a chance for delegates to participate in strengthening the advancement of male health in the Australasian region and beyond through effective strategic planning and knowledge management. The Gathering will incorporate the 6th National Aboriginal &amp; Torres Strait Islander Male Health Convention, the 5th National Men and Family Relationships Forum and the 9th National Men's Health Conference. <a href="http://www.workingwithmen.org.au">www.workingwithmen.org.au</a></p>



OCTOBER	
<b>22 - 23</b>	<p><b>UQ Certificate in Primary Care Skin Cancer Medicine 1 (Entry level Dermoscopy)</b>                      22 - 23 October: Brisbane or 3-4 December: Sydney  <b>For general practitioners</b>                      Apply your new skills immediately after the workshop  <b>Contact 07 3137 1399 or <a href="http://www.healthcert.com.au">www.healthcert.com.au</a></b></p>
<b>22 - 23</b>	<p><b>Certificate in Primary Care Skin Cancer Surgery (Intermediate level Surgery)</b>                      For general practitioners                      22-23 October: Brisbane                      Contact 07 3137 1399 or <a href="http://www.healthcert.com.au">www.healthcert.com.au</a></p>
<b>22 - 23</b>	<p><b>Advanced Skin Cancer Surgery Workshop (NEW nose/lower limb focus) for general practitioners</b>                      For general practitioners                      22-23 October: Brisbane                      Contact 07 3137 1399 or <a href="http://www.healthcert.com.au">www.healthcert.com.au</a></p>
<b>25</b>	<p><b>The Ageing Body</b>                      25 October 2011 at 10:30am                      Topic: the heart, memory loss, continence, the importance of good nutrition, balance &amp; exercise                      Speaker: Dr George Szonyi, Geriatrician                      Venue: Auditorium, Level 1, 280 Pitt Street, Sydney (Btw Park St &amp; Bathurst St – 5 minutes from Town Hall)                      RSVP: Bookings essential, 9286 3868 Morning Tea available. Members free, guests \$5</p>
NOVEMBER	
<b>4 – 6</b>	<p><b>Australian Lifestyle Medicine Association Conference</b>                      4 - 6 November 2011                      The theme for this conference is Healthy Lifestyle and Sustainability including workplace health and lifestyle medicine components throughout the program with Registration and a Pre-Conference Symposium on the Friday focusing on – Lifestyle Prevention &amp; Reversal of Type 2 Diabetes.                      For more information about this Conference please email ALMA on <a href="mailto:info@alma-inc.com.au">info@alma-inc.com.au</a>.</p>
<b>9 – 11</b>	<p><b>Youth Health 2011: It's totally important! – 8<sup>th</sup> Australian &amp; New Zealand Adolescent Health Conference</b>                      9 – 11 November 2011                      Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre, Darling Harbour, NSW.</p>
<b>16 - 19</b>	<p><b>AGPN National Forum 2011</b>                      Wednesday 16 - Saturday 19 November 2011                      Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre                      Registrations and accommodation bookings are now open for the 2011 AGPN National Forum.                      To register: <a href="http://www.gpnetworkforum.com.au/registration">http://www.gpnetworkforum.com.au/registration</a></p>
<b>25 – 27</b>	<p><b>NSW RDN /RDA (NSW) Rural GPs Conference</b>                      25 – 27 November 2011                      CPD Weekend                      Location: TBC                      For further information, contact Arna Wotherspoon - Phone: 02 8337 8100, Fax: 02 8337 8110,                      Email: <a href="mailto:conferences@nswrdn.com.au">conferences@nswrdn.com.au</a>.</p>



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