

GENERAL PRACTICE LINK – SEPTEMBER 2009

WELCOME TO THE SEPTEMBER GENERAL PRACTICE LINK

August has been a busy month for IPAC, with a lot of preparation going into our Leaders Summit which took place on 21 & 22 August. We have completed member visits to Karori PHO, ProCare, Comprehensive Health Services, and Pegasus Health, with visits to Compass Health Palmerston North and Whanganui Regional PHO coming up in September.

The IPAC Executive have spent considerable time discussing the recently released MRG report, and have invited member contributions to our formal response to the report. These need to be received by the 4th of September.

In the current climate of building multidisciplinary relationships within our member networks, IPAC has also been involved in discussions with pharmacy, physiotherapy and midwifery colleagues, with a view to establishing stronger working relationships nationally.

We hope you are all staying well, and enjoying the spring weather upon us. Long may it continue! Enjoy this latest edition of General Practice Link.

IPAC MEMBER LEADERS SUMMIT

On August 21 and 22, the IPAC Executive hosted a meeting of IPAC clinical leaders, the IPAC CEOs executive group, other network leaders (Pinnacle, RGPN, Manaia PHO (Whangarei)), and other national general practice leaders. The purpose of this meeting was to look at the future direction of IPAC and to discuss some of the large issues facing general practice and primary care at present. There was strong alignment across the room about the need for our members to play a central role in meeting the new challenges, and for IPAC to build on its core roles of providing national leadership and support for general practice/primary care teams and general practice/primary care networks in the new multidisciplinary era. IPAC Executive will be preparing a report from the meeting for the October IPAC Council meeting.

QI4GP UPDATE

IPAC was delighted to note that the MRG report was supportive of qi4gp. While awaiting the outcomes of funding applications for PMS and quality projects, we are focusing on establishing the minimal infrastructure that qi4gp will need. In line with the MRG recommendations qi4gp discussions have been held with other initiatives in the information arena to explore possible synergies.

PSAAP UPDATE

The IPAC Negotiating team has formed a joint negotiating team with the PHO Alliance. This alliance is working well, with IPAC being able to more clearly represent the interests of general practice while the PHO Alliance has a broader PHO focus. Conway Powell remains the lead negotiator and facilitator for IPAC as part of this team, alongside Hamish Kynoch, chair of the PHO Alliance.

The last full PSAAP meeting was held on 23 July. A brief summary of the key issues and outcomes from the meeting is as follows:

- Ratification of authority to sign off on Performance Programme changes – meeting confirmed that the PSAAP facilitators group has the authority to ratify and incorporate into the PHO Agreement those PMP amendments developed appropriately by the PMP Governance Group.
- Quality audit protocol – meeting approved the format of a revised non-financial audit protocol. Two significant modifications proposed by IPAC/PHO Alliance were accepted. These included right for the PHO and/or general practice being audited to request suspension of the audit process (where there are significant concerns about the audit process/auditors); and, insertion of a table to clearly specify the timeline of the audit process.
- Health sector policy development – Margie Apa provided a very useful update on the very fluid primary care policy development process within the Ministry.
- VLCA – Danny Wu outlined that Cabinet is not convinced about the value of VLCA funding in general and in particular has concerns about the value of the whole of PHO component funding, but Government is committed to some form of VLCA – so far unspecified. This issue has been circulated to members for feedback.
- Reconfirmation of enrolment – meeting formally approved an IPAC paper that specifies that a practice can re-confirm enrolment for patients who have not presented clinically in the past three years by obtaining the patient's written signature requesting ongoing enrolment (but without the patient's having to repeat the whole enrolment form). In addition, the meeting approved an amendment to the Enrolment Process Referenced Document legitimising this re-confirmation process.
- Review of medical consultation definitions, first level services and GMS – MoH have now done some further work based on the initial work by IPAC – and we are working off line with MoH to finalise this.

The next two PSAAP facilitator meetings will be held on 3 September 2009 and 15 October 2009 with the next full PSAAP meeting to be held on 26 November 2009 and then at six monthly intervals.

GENERAL PRACTICE NURSING ALLIANCE (GPNA)

We were very pleased to have five of our executive members attend the IPAC Summit held in Rotorua recently, along with many other leaders in General Practice. It was an extremely

productive forum for discussions around the future directions of General Practice, especially in the light of the recently released Horne Report, which shows support for Primary Care. It was heartening to see that it also shows good support for the role of leaders within the health care sector.

It is important that organisations or individuals give feedback on the report and the GPNA will be doing this.

The other important topic was the need for a united voice for General Practice. IPAC and GPNA have had a memorandum of understanding for sometime, and we are working towards a further strengthening of our relationship.

Submissions

We have recently sent a submission to the Nursing Council around the Scope of Practice of a Registered Nurse, and are working on a submission on the Scope of Practice of an Enrolled Nurse.

We were also invited to comment on the Medical Councils Statement on prescribing, and the role of the Medical Assistant. We have done the first and will be doing the second.

NZ RURAL GENERAL PRACTICE NETWORK CONFERENCE 2010

New Zealand's premiere rural general practice conference – the New Zealand Rural General Practice Network conference - will be held in Christchurch next year at the city's Convention Centre from March 11 – 14.

People wanting to register interest to present abstracts or wanting more information about abstracts should email Helen Shrewsbury at Conference Innovators: helen@conference.co.nz Anyone interested in sponsoring the conference or hosting an exhibition stand should contact the Network's communications manager Rob Olsen either by phone 04 495 5887 or by email: rob@rgpn.org.nz

RGPN are looking for someone to host a wine exhibition/tasting stand, a South Island-based winery would be ideal.

Conference details such as workshops, presentations and general information will be posted on the Network's and Conference Innovators' websites during the next month.

GETTING TO KNOW YOU...



Shelley Frost is the Director of Nursing at Pegasus Health. She has been with Pegasus for twelve years and worked in general practice since 1981. She is also the Deputy Chair of IPAC and the General Practice Nursing Alliance and Deputy Chair of the Canterbury DHB Clinical Board.

1. What is the best piece of advice your parents ever gave you? *From my Mum...never let the sun go down on a quarrel. From my Dad...if you can't say anything nice about someone, don't say anything at all. (Sadly I think I've probably disappointed my father a few times with that one!)*
2. What is your most embarrassing moment? *Not telling. However one work related incident which was mildly embarrassing was when I arrived in Wellington for a meeting at the Ministry wearing my husband's suit jacket instead of my own. Those early morning flights!*
3. What is your favourite movie/tv series? *"The Unbearable Lightness of Being"; directed by Philip Kaufman, starring Daniel Day-Lewis and Juliette Binoche. (Anything starring Johnny Depp is fine by me too.)*
4. What is the best dining experience you've ever had? *Ku Da Ta....a piece of Paradise in Bali. Aside from great food, heavenly cocktails and amazingly reasonable prices, the look on my husband's face when a little group of Balinese appeared from the kitchen and sang Happy Birthday to him was just priceless!*
5. What is the most expensive item of clothing you've ever bought? *A three-piece Hugo Boss suit. It has served me well though. Unfortunately the jacket is easily mistaken for my husband's when getting dressed in the dark!*
6. Where is your favourite place in the world? *Home is pretty special, however The Algarve, Portugal holds some wonderful memories.*

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Pharmac Seminar Series

Regular seminars, held at PHARMAC, Wellington

4 September – Sleep Problems and Mental Health Issues

14 September – Managing Respiratory Infections the “NICE” Way

28 September – Management of Acne

6 October – Medicines Management including in the Older Person

19 October – Common Paediatric Conditions in General Practice

<http://seminarseries.pharmac.govt.nz/seminars.php>

Cutting Edge 2009

10-11 September

Te Papa, Wellington

www.cmsl.co.nz/go/cuttingedge

RNZCGP Conference 2009

9-12 September 2009

Claiming the space: The future of primary health care

<http://www.conference.co.nz/index.cfm/RNZCGP09>

The Australian General Practice Forum 2009

4-7 November 2009

RNZCGP Annual Scientific Conference – Myths and Realities

<http://www.gpnetworkforum.com.au/site/index.cfm>

If you have a conference, workshop or other initiative running in 2009/10 and would like it mentioned in the General Practice Link email ipacnews@ipac.org.nz.

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The General Practice Link is designed to keep general practitioners, practice managers and practice nurses up-to-date on national issues affecting them, and to report on issues relevant to Organised General Practice. To receive this monthly newsletter directly, you can subscribe by emailing ipacnews@ipac.org.nz.

We welcome your feedback on the Link and ideas for future issues. To have your say please contact ipacnews@ipac.org.nz.