

Welcome to the New Zealand Rural General Practice Network e-zine for 20 February 2015.

In this issue • EIGHT great reasons to attend next month's national rural health conference • Conference 2015 CME endorsement • Rural economic development guru coming to Conference 2015 and much more...

EIGHT great reasons to attend next month's national rural health conference

- 1 - Exciting keynote speaker line-up including Health Minister Jonathan Coleman, Kiwibank New Zealand of the Year 2014 Dr Lance O'Sullivan, Dr Rawiri Jansen (MBChB, MRNZCGP, BHB, BA (Maori), Dip Teaching Ngati Raukawa) who will present on challenges for Maori medical practitioners, Dr Ernesto Sirolli (keynote and workshop, see story below)
- 2 - An extended programme and format covering six concurrent streams (42 sessions) across clinical (medical and nursing) rural hospital, research, management and community themes.
- 3 - A range of social events including doctors' and nurses' dinners, the gala dinner, welcome function, awards ceremony and breakfast forums for members and delegates
- 4 - CME endorsement up to 21 credits (see below)
- 5 - Comprehensive exhibition space with health and pharmaceutical sector representation
- 6 - Have a break too and take in the sights and activities of Rotorua - bring the family, yes there is a families' programme for the children
- 7 - Catch up with old friends and colleagues, perhaps at the gala dinner at the Skyline Gondola Rotorua restaurant
- 8 - Get political - listen to what the health minister has to say about rural health and engage in one of the forums available - nurses and members' sessions.

You can view the official conference programme and speakers by following this [LINK](#). Keep watching the [conference website](#) and this newsletter for updates.



NEW ZEALAND RURAL GENERAL PRACTICE NETWORK
RHANZ
Conference 2015
12 - 15 MARCH, ROTORUA



The Network's health promotion partner

Need a GP?

NZLocums is the recruitment division of the NZRGP.

Rural practices can take advantage of our free recruitment service!

So let us find the right solution for you.

Contact us today.

Not a member? Join the Network!

The Network is the only nationwide membership-based organisation in New Zealand representing the interests of rural general practice.

Visit our [website](#) for additional information and an online application form or contact Rob Olsen on 021 472 556.

Network on Social Media

You can follow the Network and associated rural health sector news, views and events now on Facebook and Twitter or sign up and give us your news and views - just click on one of the icons below or visit our website www.rgpn.org.nz



Conference 2015 CME endorsement

The NZRGP-NZHAANZ National Rural Health Conference 2015 in Rotorua (March 12-15) has been endorsed by the Royal New Zealand College of General Practitioners (RNZCGP) and has been approved for up to 21.00 credits (pre-conference day 7, day one up to 7 and day two up to 7) CME for General Practice Educational Programme Stage 2 (GPEP2) and Maintenance of Professional Standards (MOPS) purposes. General Practitioners who complete the programme will need certificates from the Network. These certificates will be available after participants have completed the programme, so medical practitioners participating in GPEP2 or MOPS have the necessary documentation for submission to the college when this is requested.



Click [HERE](#) to register for the conference. Or click [HERE](#) to view the programme.

Rural economic development guru coming to Conference 2015



Dr **Ernesto Sirolli** an international superstar of sustainable economic development for rural communities whose TED talk on the Christchurch earthquakes has received over **two million views**, will deliver a keynote address and workshop during the conference.

The keynote is titled "**Facilitated Health Services - responding to rural communities**", which explores ways in which communities benefit from a caring, listening, facilitative approach to the delivery of education, health and social programmes. Following the keynote Dr Sirolli will be offering a workshop titled "Don't let a single ounce of intelligence go to waste - best practices for growing local economies."

While the keynote will be tailored to health services, the underlying principles and teachings will help any entrepreneur looking to improve or grow their business. The workshop the next day will further expand on best practices for growing local economies. Please help the Network by circulating this information amongst your colleagues and business contacts. To view the programme or register click [HERE](#).

Rural Service Level Alliance Team (RSLAT) survey

Practice managers/owners and rural contracted providers, we're keen to find out what's happening in your area regarding RSLAT activity.

Among other things, the purpose of the RSLAT is to find agreement and make recommendations to the Alliance Leadership Team on how best to use rural funding in your area. Participation of the practices is essential to allow changes to occur.

Please take the time to answer the questions in the survey below. This will assist us in providing feedback to DHBs and the Ministry of Health on the progress of the alliance flexible funding model for rural funding:

Click the survey link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/R6YZ8SW>

Get your Locum requests in!

With the April holidays already on the horizon it's time to find out if your GPs are taking any leave. As soon as you know please send us your Locum Request Form so we can start looking straight away.

Looking further ahead - will you need locum cover in the winter holidays? This is a notoriously trickier time to find cover, especially if it's a late request. So ask around now and be at the head of the queue!

Download your Locum Request Form [here](#).
Send all requests to enquiries@nzlocums.com

NZLocums visit Northland

NZLocums relationship managers Sarah Maguire and Lucy Tregidga visited several Northland rural practices during January and gained a valuable insight into their needs. Over a two-day period the pair visited Coast to Coast Health Care in Wellsford, and 10 practices in Te Tai Tokerau PHO - from the Bay of Islands to Hokianga and up to Kaitiaki.

They said the trip was an invaluable opportunity to meet the people they work with in Northland, see the practices and get a feel for the Northland communities they are recruiting GPs into. This will be helpful, both in finding the right candidates for these communities, and making sure the practices can be accurately represented, giving candidates a complete and realistic picture of the challenges of practising in more isolated and deprived areas.

[Read more.](#)

More new nurses than ever in work but 41% still job-hunting

More graduate nurses have gained new graduate positions than this time last year - but bumper application numbers means 570 would-be nurses are still job-hunting. (Nursing Review)

But Ministry of Health chief nurse Jane O'Malley says progress has been made in the employment of new graduate nurses with the 868 placed in jobs well up on the 705 at the same time last year but there was still room for improvement.

[Read more.](#)

ACC Under 13s Advisory

Following recent consultation on the Accident Compensation (Liability to Pay or Contribute to Cost of Treatment) Regulations, ACC will increase the contribution it pays for injured under 13 year olds visiting GPs and Nurses.

ACC will apply the same contribution increase across Regulated General Practitioners and contracted Accident and Medical Clinics and Rural General Practices. The higher rate already paid for under six year old consultations will be removed. The increase will apply from July 1.

The following rates will apply for general practice visits under Cost of Treatment Regulations:

Medical practitioner (\$24), combined medical practitioner and nurse (\$24), nurse practitioner (\$24), nurse (\$5). These amounts represent the increase above adult standard rate (excluding GST).

ACC will apply the increase in the following way for contracted providers by way of an U13 service code:

Rural GP
\$24 for consultation codes: RP01, RP02, RP03, RP04, RP05

A&M
\$24 for consultation codes: A023, A024, A036, A044, A045
\$5 for A003 where no other consultations are claimed.

This is an extension of the "free" under six contract requirement, where providers will not be able to charge children under 13 a co-payment. The condition will apply to in- and after-hours service provision, and applies to residents and foreign nationals alike, as per ACC legislation.

Andrew Connolly re-elected MCNZ chairperson

Mr Andrew Connolly has been re-elected chairperson of the Medical Council of New Zealand.

At the Council's first meeting of the year, Mr Connolly was unanimously elected chairperson of Council for another 12 months.

Appointed to the Council in November 2009, Mr Connolly was elected deputy chair of Council in February 2012 and was first elected chairperson of Council in February 2013.

Mr Connolly is a general and colorectal surgeon, employed fulltime at Counties Manukau District Health Board.

Council members also unanimously re-elected, Ms Laura Mueller, a lay member as the Council's deputy chairperson.

Scholarships encouraging more Māori to become nurses

Twenty seven young Māori nursing students were recently awarded scholarships to Whitiorea's nursing school from Capital & Coast District Health Board (CCDHB). (Scoop)

This is the first year the scholarships have been awarded as part of a partnership between CCDHB and Whitiorea's Health Faculty.

[Read more.](#)

Bonding scheme now taking names for 2015

Applications are now open for clinicians including GP trainees to join this year's intake of the Voluntary Bonding Scheme, which can help pay off students' loans after three years. (NZ Doctor)

[Read more.](#)

Career advice downgrades nursing's job prospects

Nursing has dropped a notch from being a "good" job prospect to a "fair" one in the latest Occupation Outlook report released by the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment. (Nursing Review)

[Read more.](#)

Medical Council cautions patients about telemedicine

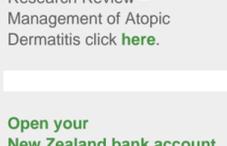
The Medical Council has cautioned patients about some of the potential pitfalls of telemedicine and at the same time highlighted the need for doctors practising telemedicine to be aware of Council's expectations when using technology to diagnose and treat patients. (Scoop)

[Read more.](#)

Publications and resources:

- Latest Network News, click [here](#).
- RHAANZ newsletter, click [here](#).
- Division of Rural Hospital Medicine e-newsletter, click [here](#).
- Rural Women New Zealand, Bulletin Aotearoa, click [here](#).
- Health Workforce New Zealand stakeholder bulletin, click [here](#).
- IT Health Board newsletter, click [here](#).
- ALAC newsletter Ease Up, click [here](#).
- Mobile Health news, click [here](#).
- Medline (USA rural health) click [here](#).
- To access the PRIME St John website, click [here](#).
- PRIME Committee contacts, click [here](#).
- PRIME responders, click [here](#).
- Medical Council News click [here](#).
- Research Review - Management of Atopic Dermatitis click [here](#).

Open your New Zealand bank account



The Network's official banking partner.

Tell us your story

We are looking for health sector-related stories from around rural New Zealand. People, places, achievements and challenges. If you have a good yarn to tell contact Network communications manager Rob Olsen, email rob@rgpn.org.nz or 021 472 556.

Orientation for Overseas Trained GPs & Practice Nurses

Do you have an overseas trained GP or Nurse joining your team soon? Give them the best start and send them on our CME endorsed course in Wellington.

Our orientation ensures that all GPs and Practice Nurses are provided with a comprehensive foundation. This allows them to hit the ground running when they start working for you.

- Some of the topics included are:
- Presentation from a local practitioner
 - ACC
 - Pharmacist
 - Work & Income
 - St John resuscitation workshop
 - Medtech32 practical training

We continually receive feedback from attendees and practices. Attendees comment that they couldn't comprehend starting work without it!

Click for:

[Brochure & Cost](#) [Course Dates](#)



The "Orientation for Overseas Trained General Practitioners" has been endorsed by The Royal New Zealand College of General Practitioners (RNZCGP) and has been approved for up to **14.0 credits** CME for General Practice Educational Programme Stage 2 (GPEP2) and Maintenance of Professional Standards (MOPS) purposes.

Limited spaces available - book now!

For more information or to reserve a place please contact Louise Pert, Course Co-ordinator:

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