

Welcome to the New Zealand Rural General Practice Network e-zine for 1 May 2015.

In this issue • PHARMAC seek your input • Will you be attending conference 2016? • Conference 2015 sessions, photos and stories and much more...

PHARMAC seek your input

PHARMAC has contracted Allen + Clarke to engage with primary care health professionals on the information and education materials they access and/or receive about the responsible use of pharmaceuticals.

They are interested in hearing what Network members think of the information you receive, how you value it, and how you might like to see such a service delivered in future. PHARMAC will use this feedback to help inform future activities so that the best service is delivered in the best way; to the right people at the right time.

They know your time is precious so the survey should only take 10 minutes. Everyone who completes the survey by May 8 will have a chance to win one of three \$100 grocery vouchers.

To start click here: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/4pxsrqgFi3Eqz1X4>

They want to hear from the entire primary healthcare team, including pharmacists, practice nurses and GPs, so please encourage your colleagues to complete this survey.

Will you be attending conference 2016?

Complete our short survey and go into the draw to win a free registration to conference 2016 in **Dunedin**.

We'd like to know if you intend to come to next year's national rural health conference at the Dunedin Centre. Click on the following link to access this short survey: www.surveymonkey.com/s/WPKTFNN

The recently refurbished Dunedin Centre and town hall on the Octagon is the venue for national rural health conference 2016, to be held over four days from March 31 to April 3.



The location gives delegates and exhibitors easy access to and from hotels and parking, as well as to the CBD and surrounding cafes and restaurants. Several venues were considered to host the conference including the Forsyth Barr Stadium and the Edgar Centre. The Dunedin Centre's central location, its recent upgrade, range of spaces (exhibition, plenary and concurrent/breakout rooms), with extra session rooms minutes away, made it the logical choice.

Several locations are being considered for the conference gala dinner including Larnach Castle on the Otago Peninsula. Keep watching this newsletter for updates.

Conference 2015 sessions, photos and stories

If you were unable to attend the recent national rural health conference in Rotorua, presentations from sessions are available on the official conference website. Click [here](#).

Speaker interviews YouTube (courtesy Mobile Health)

Photos from the conference are also available by clicking [HERE](#).

Also see [Peter Snow Memorial Award](#).
And [nurse leads Network](#).

Pick up in Maori accessing free under-13s care after slow start in Northland

A worryingly low uptake of free GP visits for Maori children under 13-years-old in Northland is starting to turn around, says Manaia Health PHO chief executive Chris Farrelly. (NZ Doctor)

Free under-13s medical care is due to be rolled out across the country from June, but Northland health authorities **decided to launch it** in their region last October.

[Read more.](#)

Million-dollar med centre planned for small Otago community

Palmerston GP Campbell Murdoch believes plans for a new million-dollar medical centre for the small Otago township will make a huge difference to the practice's ability to help train young doctors and nurses. (NZ Doctor)

Currently, the East Otago Health Centre in Palmerston operates from an old maternity hospital, and there is very little space for practice staff to carry out the role expected of a rural training practice, Professor Murdoch says.

[Read more.](#)

Bestselling US health writer to give Wellington public lecture

Dr Atul Gawande, one of the world's biggest-selling and most influential health writers, is to give a public lecture in Wellington. (Scoop).

Dr Gawande, an American surgeon who writes about health for the New Yorker magazine, is the author of books such as The Checklist Manifesto: How to Get Things Right and, most recently, Being Mortal: Illness, Medicine, and What Matters in the End.

His Wellington lecture is on Monday, May 18 at 6pm-7.30pm (doors open 5.30pm) in Shed 6 on Wellington waterfront and is being hosted by the Health Quality & Safety Commission, with support from PWC. Tickets are \$10 (plus booking fee).

[Read more.](#)

Call for compulsory vaccination by prominent GP "alarming"

The statement by GP Dr Lance O'Sullivan, who won the "New Zealand Herald story: Leading GP Lance O'Sullivan: Parents 'compelled' to vaccinate, in which Dr O'Sullivan called on the Government to follow Australia's example to cut child welfare payments to families who do not vaccinate their children, saying the policy would help protect the most vulnerable in our society. (NZ Herald).

"I have no doubts that Dr O'Sullivan is a dedicated doctor who cares about his patients and the community, and his recognition is well deserved given the initiatives he has taken to improve the health of people in Kaitiaki, such as the Kainga Ora healthy housing initiative," Mrs Smith says.

[Read more.](#)

In the April 17 issue of the Rural Networker, we carried the NZ Herald story: Leading GP Lance O'Sullivan: Parents 'compelled' to vaccinate, in which Dr O'Sullivan called on the Government to follow Australia's example to cut child welfare payments to families who do not vaccinate their children, saying the policy would help protect the most vulnerable in our society. (NZ Herald).

[Read more.](#)

Members invited to comment on draft PCC document

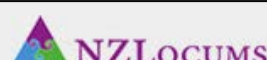
The draft Principles and Guidance for the Last Days of Life: Te Ara Whakapiri - The Path of Closeness and Unity for sector consultation has been completed by the Palliative Care Council (PCC). The guidance represents the recommended approach to caring, across all sectors and settings for New Zealanders who have life-limiting illness and are in their last days of life.

The draft is not publicly available yet, however for a copy of the document for Network members to review and comment on, please email Network communications manager Rob Olsen:

rob@rgpn.org.nz. The PCC are particularly interested to hear how this guidance fits with current tools and how clinically applicable it is across a range of settings. Please send any feedback [here](#) by May 6, 2015.



The Network's health promotion partner



Need a GP?

NZLocums is the recruitment division of the NZRGNP.

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



Doctors irked by pharmacy flu jabs

Pharmacies in Waikato are delivering free flu jabs to people this winter in a New Zealand first that has raised hackles with doctors. (RNZ)

Pharmacies around the country have been able to deliver the vaccinations to those who pay, but not free flu jabs.

[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](#).
GP Research Review Issue 95 click [here](#).

Autumn Network News Out soon!



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 their start working for you.

- Some of the topics included are:
- Presentation from a local practitioner
 - ACC
 - Pharmacist
 - Work & Income
 - St John resuscitation workshop
 - Meditech32 practical training

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

Click for:

[Brochure & Cost](#)

[Course Dates](#)



The Royal New Zealand College of General Practitioners
Endorsed CPD Activity

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:

louise@nzlocums.com | +64 4 495 5877



If you would like to unsubscribe from this e-zine please [click here](#)

www.rgpn.org.nz | 69-71 The Terrace | PO Box 547 Wellington 6140 New Zealand
Phone +64 4 472 3901 | Fax +64 4 472 0904 | network@rgpn.org.nz