

Welcome to the New Zealand Rural General Practice Network e-zine for 29 May 2015.

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PHARMAC Seminar Series available online



Many of you will be aware of the PHARMAC Seminar Series education sessions. The seminar series provides high quality education covering a variety of topics, and caters to a range of health professionals. PHARMAC is aware, however that not everyone can get to the seminars when they are on, and that it is particularly true for rural and provincial primary care clinicians. In order to reach a wider audience PHARMAC has filmed a selection of seminars and these seminars are now available online. Watching these videos has been approved for CME for Royal New Zealand College of General Practitioners (RNZCGP), and the Maintenance of Professional Standards (MOPS) purposes, provided that a Learning Reflection Form is completed.

You can email a copy of the completed learning reflection form to seminarseries@pharmac.govt.nz and PHARMAC can issue a certificate stating the topic and viewing hours. The certificate can then be given to the case manager for CME approval.

You can follow the links to the following seminars:

Neurology update

Dr Anna Ranta – Consultant Neurologist

Primary care diabetes

Dr Jeremy Krebs and his team from Capital and Coast DHB

Practical management of childhood eczema

Dr Diana Purvis, Dr Karen Hoare & Jessica Tiplady

Managing your patient who has dementia

Dr Ian Hosford, Dr Nathan Joseph, Lesley Maskery & Lisa Cooke

Pain management

Dr Paul Hardy and his team from Capital and Coast DHB

Complex antenatal conditions / update on maternal mental health

Dr Sara Weeks & Dr Jay Marlow

The recent Rheumatology and Dermatology Updates will also be available online shortly.

Pharmac is interested in your feedback about this online learning, and are continuing to film seminars to build up their library. Feedback to rob@rgpn.org.nz



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](http://www.ourwebsite.org) 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.ourwebsite.org



Find us on Facebook



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Budget 2015

Palliative care funds and services must filter through to rural communities - NZRGP

"Elective surgery, more bowel cancer screening and additional palliative care funding are the health highlights in Budget 2015 and are all commendable initiatives, but we need to ensure that funds and services filter through to rural communities," says New Zealand Rural General Practice Network chief executive Dalton Kelly (pictured).



[Read more.](#)

Palliative nurses welcome funding boost

A funding boost for palliative care is warmly welcomed to help attract young nurses onto the palliative care nurse specialist pathway, says the Palliative Care Nurses New Zealand chair. (Nursing Review)

[Read more.](#)

Meanwhile, Nurse leaders see Budget 2015 as short-sighted, leaving health short-changed and lacking in vision.

Memo Musa, the chief executive of the New Zealand Nurses Organisation, said the Budget increase still left health short-changed by around \$260 million to meet the costs of rising prices, the increasing and ageing population, wage increases and new services.

[Read more.](#)

RNZ Budget overview.

Medical students' fears confirmed [Read more.](#)

A petition has so far collected nearly 7000 signatures. To sign the petition click [HERE](#).

Broadband levy under fire on several fronts

The rural broadband levy included in Budget 2015 has been decried by both Labour ICT spokeswoman Clare Curran and the Telecommunications Forum. (ODT)

Even as Ms Curran was predicting an immediate price hike for internet and telephone connections across New Zealand, Spark managing director Simon Moutter was announcing the telecommunications company would pass the levy cost on to its broadband and on-account mobile customers.

[Read more.](#)

Call for better rural broadband strategy

A Māori internet working group, Ngā Pū Wāea, plans to urge the Government to be more strategic about rolling out fibre optic broadband to marae in rural areas. (RNZ)

Ngā Pū Wāea said it needed to keep costs down and make the faster broadband more accessible.

[Read more.](#)

ALSO see Broadband pitch gathers momentum in Central Otago

[Read more.](#)

News from rural NZ

Central Otago community behind Dunstan Hospital in face of funding cuts

The Central Otago community came out in force to a public meeting in Alexandra about a proposed five per cent Southland District Health Board funding cut to Dunstan Hospital. (ODT)

More than 700 people packed the Alexandra Community Theatre last week in an effort to retain the services the community-owned hospital provides.

Central Otago Health Services Limited has run the hospital for the past 15 years.

[Read more.](#)

Also see: GP fears deaths if funding cuts go ahead to Dunstan Hospital (NZ Doctor)

[Read more.](#)

Record numbers of doctors and nurses in Taranaki

Getting sick in Taranaki shouldn't be too much of a pain with more than 600 doctors and nurses on the case. (Taranaki Daily News)

As of March 31, the Taranaki District Health Board employed 146 doctor and 499 nurse full-time equivalents.

[Read more.](#)

Conference 2016

Will you be attending conference 2016?

Thanks to all those who have completed our short survey however, we'd still like to know if you intend to come to next year's national rural health conference at the **Dunedin Centre**.

Complete the survey and go into the draw to win a free registration to conference 2016.

Click on the following link to access a short survey: <https://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 locations are being considered for the conference gala dinner including Larnach Castle on the Octagon Peninsula, the Dunedin Public Art Gallery and the Otago Settlers Museum. Keep watching this newsletter for updates.

Conference 2015 sessions, photos and stories: Follow this [LINK](#)

Publications and resources:

- Latest Network News, click [here](#).
- RHAANZ newsletter, click [here](#).
- Division of Rural Hospital e-newsletter, click [here](#).
- Rural Women New Zealand, Bulletin Aotearoa, click [here](#).
- Health Workforce New Zealand stakeholder bulletin, click [here](#).
- IT Learning 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](#).

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

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
- Pharmac
- Work & Income
- St John Resuscitation workshop
- Medtech32 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 "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



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www.ourwebsite.org | 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