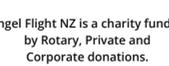




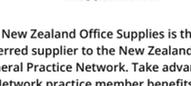
Welcome to the New Zealand Rural General Practice Network e-zine for 10 August 2018



In this issue: Good progress being made on PRIME service improvement plan - Call for Conference 2019 abstracts - Merits of medical model touted and much more...



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The Network's health promotion partner.

HOT OFF THE PRESS

Good progress being made on PRIME service improvement plan

The National PRIME Committee met recently to discuss progress being made with the PRIME service improvement plan, borne out of recommendations from the 2017 PRIME review.

PRIME funding, administration, clinical governance, training and syllabus, and equipment kits and medicines are included in the review.

The committee, chaired by Dr Tim Malloy, includes representatives from St John, ACC, Ministry of Health, National Ambulance Sector Office, New Zealand Rural General Practice Network, NZ College of Primary Care Nurses, ECCT, PRIME providers, PRIME practitioners, Rural Service Level Alliance teams, and Fire and Emergency New Zealand. It met on Thursday, July 26 in Auckland.

[Read more.](#)

Details of major health review finalised

Health Minister Dr David Clark has confirmed the final details of the wide-ranging review of New Zealand's health and disability system as it begins its work in earnest. (Beehive Press Release)

The review, to be led by Heather Simpson, was announced in May. Final Terms of Reference and the full membership of the review panel have now been signed-off by Cabinet.

'New Zealand has a public health service that we can all be proud of. We are have world-class clinicians and allied health workers and they deliver quality services - but we can always do better.

[Read more.](#)

Otago demonstrates its commitment to rural health with new 'virtual campus'

The University of Otago has reiterated its commitment to training and education in rural health with the establishment of a new Section of Rural Health, believed to be the first dedicated rural health unit currently operating within a New Zealand tertiary institution. (Scoop)

The new group will sit within the Department of General Practice and Rural Health at the Dunedin School of Medicine. The current Rural Postgraduate Programme, the Rural Medical Immersion Programme and rural research will all come together to form the new Section.

[Read more.](#)

NATIONAL RURAL HEALTH CONFERENCE 2019



ASB Theatre

Call for Conference 2019 abstracts

The call for abstracts is now open for the Network's 2019 National Rural Health Conference to be held at the Marlborough Convention Centre from April 4-7.

Next year's event will be the 27th annual conference and offers CME accredited workshops, plenary and concurrent presentations with a rural primary and rural hospital health care focus to a wide ranging audience, which includes doctors, nurses, universities and students New Zealand-wide.

Themes

We are particularly interested in the following themes for rural-focussed presentations and preference may be given to abstracts related to these: Equity, Diversity, Sustainability.

To assist us with programme development you will be asked to select one of the below categories. Please select the most relevant one to your presentation.

Categories

Clinical, Nursing, Management, Community, Research.

Key dates

Abstract submission open Now!
Abstract submission closes **August 31, 2018**
Author acceptance notification: October 2018.
Please click [HERE](#) for more information and to submit your abstract.



Marlborough to host Network's 2019 National Rural Health Conference

Come to Marlborough for the Network's 2019 National Rural Health Conference and experience all this comprehensive event and exciting region has to offer.

Imagine it's late Summer-early Autumn in one of New Zealand's beautiful wine growing regions - Marlborough. Imagine the vivid red and gold colours of the vine leaves and the lines of grapes strung out across the landscape as you touch down on Blenheim airfield. Imagine the quiet, quaintness of Blenheim with its cafes and shops on provincial streets. Imagine the ASB Theatre and Marlborough Convention Centre in the middle of the town as the focal point of your visit to the 2019 conference.

Soak up the CME, collegiality and camaraderie, and while you're there why not take an extra day or two to sample the local cuisine, Sauvignon Blanc (or other varietal), cycling and a multitude of other activities on offer in the region. Conference 2019 will feature workshops, concurrent sessions and eight keynote speakers across three days concluding with the Members' political and breakfast forum on the morning of the fourth day. A Gala Dinner and Awards Night, Welcome Function and several other dinners will again be features of the conference. Registration opens October 26, 2019.

Keep an eye on the Network's [WEBSITE](#) for more details about the programme.

WHERE: Marlborough Convention Centre/ASB Theatre
WHEN: April 4 - 7, 2019

Peter Snow Memorial Award 2019 - nominations open

Do you know of a medical or nursing colleague in rural health deserving of this accolade?

Nominations are now open for the annual Peter Snow Memorial Award to be announced at the Network's 2019 conference. The award was set up to honour the life and work of Dr Peter Snow who passed away in March 2006. Dr Snow was a rural general practitioner based in Tapanui.

For more information, nomination guidelines or to nominate someone click [HERE](#).

Or contact Network communications manager Rob Olsen, email: rob@rgpn.org.nz or telephone 04 495 5887 or 021 472 556.

SECTOR NEWS

Merits of medical model touted

A Wellington GP says the Health Care Home model, launched in Queenstown last week (August 1), is "helping return some of the joy of being a GP". (ODT)

Last month the Southern District Health Board (DHB) and WellSouth Primary Health Network announced the first 16 general practices to become Health Care Homes, which promote access to urgent and unplanned care, provide more preventive care and better support of people with complex needs. It also provided a framework for continuous improvement and business efficiency.

[Read more.](#)

Rural communities warned of toxin producing bacteria

Taranaki's rural communities are being warned to be on alert for illness caused by bacteria carried in the intestines of cattle and other animals which can cause severe gastroenteritis in young children. (Scoop)

Taranaki DHB's Medical Officer of Health, Dr Jonathan Jarman says "Taranaki has high rates of Shiga toxin producing E.coli (STEC), also known as Verotoxin producing E.coli (VTEC). Young children on farms with cattle are at high risk of catching this disease, with nearly half of cases ending up in hospital."

[Read more.](#)

New chair for Pharmac

Health Minister Dr David Clark has announced that former Vice-Chancellor of Massey University and senior Cabinet minister Steve Maharey has been appointed as chair of Pharmac. (Beehive media release)

[Read more.](#)

New site to review Doctors online creates stir

A new website allowing New Zealanders to rate, review and compare their healthcare providers is creating a stir among the medical profession. (NZ Herald)

The site, dubbed Whitecoat, has launched with more than 4000 New Zealand doctors, dentists and physiotherapists from around the country signed up in a bid to become "more transparent".

[Read more.](#)

St John rolls out Mental Health First Aid courses in response to rising demand

A rising number of mental health call outs has prompted St John to offer a mental health "first aid" course. (Stuff)

Designed for managers and those who interact with the public, the course will teach people how to recognise signs of mental distress, how to respond and where to get help.

National programme and development manager Gabrielle Wildbore said the one-day course would cover anxiety, depression, problem gambling, alcohol and drug abuse, as well as suicide and self harm.

[Read more.](#)

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST SUGHT

RNNZ seek exec committee member

Rural Nurses New Zealand (RNNZ) is seeking expressions of interest for a new executive committee member.

RNNZ strives to have representation from all sectors of rural nursing, however they currently have a gap for a North Island rural hospital representative and are particularly eager to have a nursing representative from a DHB-funded rural hospital.

If you are interested in this opportunity please send your expression of interest to Rhonda Johnson, Chairperson, RNNZ, via email: ruralnursesnz@gmail.com or phone 021 485 759.

GPs sought to join AYA

The Adolescent and Young Adult (AYA) Cancer Network Aotearoa are looking for GPs who may be interested in joining an Early Identification Working Group for AYA cancer.

The focus of the Early Identification Working Group is to explore and support the development of strategies and tools to reduce diagnostic delay in AYA (12 to 24 years) cancer patients.

Following a review of the literature, it has been determined that GPs are an integral part of the solutions to AYA diagnostic delay. They are seeking interested GPs to act as representatives on the Working Group.

Working Group members would be expected to demonstrate active involvement and attendance at the majority of meetings held. This is expected to be at least one face-to-face meeting and up to eight video/teleconferences.

Applications close August 17, 2018.

For more information and/or to apply email: research@childcancer.org.nz or call Heidi Watson, Senior Clinical Lead, AYA Network on 021 337 129.

[Read more.](#)

SURVEYS

Ultrasound requirement/use survey

The New Zealand Rural General Practice Network in conjunction with FUJIFILM Sonosite is interested to hear from GPs in rural practices around New Zealand about the need or demand for ultrasound equipment and associated training.

From conversations with some rural practices the Network is aware that there is a reasonable amount of clinical interest in introducing ultrasound into their clinical practice which could help improve patient outcomes.

We are also aware that cost of equipment and access to training might be barriers for some practices. Other practices may not be interested in providing this sort of specialised service. This short survey is designed to determine some of these questions.

Please click [HERE](#) to start the survey.

Are you supporting someone with an intellectual disability?

IHC's Community Advocacy team is interested in hearing from intellectual health professionals or practices who are supporting someone with an intellectual disability.

IHC will offer support through its Community Advocacy Team via face-to-face training, webinars, or articles and information.

IHC's 'Supporting Decision Making' workshops explore what makes good support, how to support people to make decisions for themselves, safety issues that can arise, and legal options that are available.

The content is based on information from interviews with people with intellectual disabilities, the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and current best practice models of supported decision making.

If you or someone in your practice is working with someone with an intellectual disability and is interested in a workshop or other resources please complete the following short survey: Click this [LINK](#).

Not a member? Join the Network!

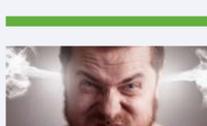
The Network is the only nationwide membership-based organisation in New Zealand representing the interests of rural general practice.

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

Testimonial

"NZLocums have been helpful and supportive from beginning to end. I would not have been confident about starting a locum post in New Zealand without their support."

Tony Pearson, GP, UK.



Need a GP?

[NZLOCUMS](#)

[Follow this link!](#)

[NZ DOCTOR STORIES](#) (log-in to NZ Doctor required)

East Coast research centre opens in memory of GP Pat Ngata

Doctors and academics, Māori leaders and community members from the East Coast and beyond gathered at Te Puia Springs Hospital on August 2 to open a ground-breaking research centre named after well-loved GP Paratene 'Pat' Ngata.

Te Rangawairua o Paratene Ngata, literally 'the inspiration of Paratene', is a joint project between Ngati Porou Hauora and the Auckland University-based Maurice Wilkins Centre.

[Read more.](#) (NZ Doctor - log-in required)

True generalist stitches up everyone including pets

When Moerewa GP Graeme Fenton was tricked into giving a talk at the RNZCGP conference with the lure of a free breakfast, he had no idea that, later that morning he would be up on the stage receiving the Eric Elder Memorial Medal.

It was completely unexpected, the 75-year-old Northland GP, told New Zealand Doctor, as he left the stage following a standing ovation.

[Read more.](#) (NZ Doctor - log-in required)

From academic failure to inspirational GP - Martin Mikaere's journey 'home'

From childhood in a tiny Coromandel village to life as a GP registrar down the road in Paeroa, Martin Mikaere's journey might not seem so far in geographical terms, but his description of his personal odyssey evoked laughter, tears and admiration at the RNZCGP conference.

[Read more.](#) (NZ Doctor - log-in required)

Southern DHB's rejigged Alliance South members settle into role

A new member of Southern DHB's rejigged Alliance South wants to ensure proposed changes to the region's primary care are not solely driven by the Dunedin Hospital rebuild.

Gore pharmacist Bernie McKone says he'll be making a push for better use of medicines in a bid to reduce millions of dollars of waste.

[Read more.](#) (NZ Doctor - log-in required)

EVENTS

Otago Spotlight Series: Infectious Disease Research Forum

Tuesday, September 11, 9am-3.30pm, Wellington

- Disease prevention and control
- Understanding bacteria, viruses and parasites
- Animal, plant and environmental links to human health.

Join in and hear over a dozen University of Otago researchers providing short, easy-to-understand outlines of their work. The programme will cater to a range of interests including human health, agriculture, biosecurity, the environment, pharmaceuticals, researchers, policymakers, clinicians, and research institutions, community and government agencies.

For more about the presenters follow this [LINK](#).

The venue is the University of Otago, Wellington, Nordmeyer Theatre, 23A Mein St, Newtown. Attendance is free (morning and afternoon teas and lunch provided).

Register now by [email](#).

Rural Generalist CME Workshop

Rarotonga, August 29 - 31

A practical case-based workshop on the complexity of doing medicine in a resource-poor environment, applying up-to-date evidence on common topics, supporting training and education in the Cook Islands.

The workshop is jointly hosted by the Rural Postgraduate Programme, University of Otago and the Cook Islands Ministry of Health.

[Read more.](#)

Links

Rural Nurses/Mobile Health webinar series:

Ben Harris, Med Lab Scientist, infection prevention and control, via [YouTube](#)

Nurse Practitioner, Michelle Boltz shares her experience in developing a hospitalist program in rural Arctic Alaska and the use of telemedicine via [YouTube](#)

Health Workforce via [New Zealand stakeholder bulletin](#), click [here](#).

Mobile Health news, click [here](#).

Medline (USA rural health) click [here](#).

bnz

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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.