



Fellowship Facts Edition 24, 17 February 2010

NCGPT events*

18 February	9.00am	Emergency Medicine	Ballina	Half day release	GPT1 and GPT2 registrars
26 February	9.00am	Emergency Medicine	Coffs Harbour	Full day release	GPT1 and GPT2 registrars
27-28 February	9.00am	GPT3 Workshop: negotiation skills	Ballina	Two-day workshop	GPT3 registrars
3 March	9.00am	Immunisation	Port Macquarie	Half day release	GPT1 and GPT2 registrars
4 March	9.00am	Sexual Health	Ballina	Half day release	GPT1 and GPT2 registrars
5 March	9.00am	Sexual Health	Coffs Harbour	Half day release	GPT1 and GPT2 registrars
6 March		2010.1 RACGP written exam		Registrars sitting	2010.1 RACGP exams
12-14 March		Beyond the Medical Record	Lennox Head	Creative Writing Retreat for Doctors	
17 April	9:00am	Mock OSCE exam	Ballina		

*Attendance subject to approval from NCGPT Director of Training.

Attendance confirmed by registration. More information at <http://www.ncgpt.org.au/beyond> or contact Rhonda O'Dell P: 02 6681 5711; or rhondao@ncgpt.org.au

Exam Resources

The Australian Doctor 2009 How to Treat Yearbook

The How to Treat Yearbook contains a full year's worth of How to Treat articles presented in a handy A4 hardcover book. Every edition contains in-depth reviews of a wide range of clinical conditions. For details visit <https://subscribe.reedbusiness.com.au/default.asp?offergroup=CD10WB01&pubid=70>

RACGP CHECK

As of February 2010 the RACGP's check program will be delivered online to members via the *gplearning* online learning platform www.gplearning.com.au. The new online format provides you with greater convenience for testing your clinical knowledge and preparing for your examinations.

The CHECK program focuses on a new topic each month, and provides a range of clinical cases followed by a series of questions designed to bring out the important issues to consider in the clinical history, examination, investigation and management of a problem.

AMC Launches Support for Exam Candidates

Also a handy study practice resource for RACGP Fellowship Candidates. The Australian Medical Council (AMC) has launched some new initiatives to support International Medical Graduates (IMGs) preparing for Australia's medical screening exam. The AMC Handbook of Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs) is a major publication designed to assist IMGs prepare for the AMC's MCQ examination. It contains almost 600 multiple choice questions drawn from the AMC examination banks. The handbook covers all disciplines and clinical categories and contains a complete multidisciplinary 150 question MCQ paper. To purchase the book, go to <https://store.amc.org.au> The AMC has also launched a new online trial examination, which provides prospective MCQ candidates with a responsive and up-to-date exam experience. The new examination links to the AMC Handbook of MCQs and contains 50 questions in the format of the AMC MCQ. For more information on the exam, go to www.amc.org.au/index.php/img/exam/mcq/trial-examination

Exam news

2010.2 Exam (August) – do you want to sit the written component in Ballina, Coffs Harbour or Port Macquarie?

If you are enrolled to sit the written exam, please inform the RACGP if you would like to change your requested site to Port Macquarie, Coffs Harbour or Ballina. If we get 5 or more who want to sit locally we **may** get permission. If you want to speak to Katerina Coleman at the RACGP assessments department about this, her direct number is P: 03 8699 059. NB Applications to move from an established centre to an alternative venue will only be accepted up to 4 weeks before the examination date.

1. Send an email to this address assessment@racgp.org.au attention it to Katerina Coleman
2. State you want to sit the Written Exam in **Ballina/Coffs Harbour/Port Macquarie**
3. State your nominated invigilator is: Ballina – Nick DeMarko/ Coffs Harbour - Dr Helena Johnston/ Port Macquarie – Dr Debbie Kors
4. Cc the email to Sue Gramza and Sharyn Corbyn at NCGPT, sueg@ncgpt.org.au; sharync@ncgpt.org.au, so we can keep track of who has made the request and advocate on your behalf.
5. Then inform your invigilator:

For Port Macquarie:

Dr Debbie Kors
Medical Educator, North Coast GP Training
M: 0407 292208
E: debbiek@tsn.cc

For Coffs Harbour:

Dr Helena Johnston
Medical Educator, North Coast GP Training
Coffs Harbour Clinical School
P: 6652 0411 (clinical School) or 6651 5774 (Division)
E: hjohnston@mncdgp.org.au

For Lennox Head

Dr Nick Demarko c/o Sue Gramza
P: 6681 5711
E: sueg@ncgpt.org.au

Pathways to GP

ACRRM Independent Pathway is now open

The ACRRM Independent Pathway will suit experienced practitioners who prefer self-directed learning. This full-fee pathway is a very flexible way for doctors to meet the requirements for vocational competency in general practice and attain Fellowship of ACRRM. You will find the application form and other relevant information on the ACCRM website at <http://www.acrrm.org.au/vocational-training#training> under Training Pathways. Applications close: 19 March 2010

RACGP Specialist Pathway is now open

The RACGP has announced that from 1 February 2010 the college can take applications for the RACGP Specialist Pathway. For more details go to <http://www.racgp.org.au/overseastraineddoctors>

The RACGP Specialist Pathway is part of a nationally agreed assessment and registration process developed in conjunction with the Australian Medical Boards, Australian Medical Council (AMC), the Department of Health and Ageing and the RACGP. This is a new assessment process for doctors who do not hold current Australian medical registration but have recognised general practice qualifications from overseas countries.

The Specialist Pathway Program provides a pathway for IMGs to obtain Fellowship from the RACGP taking into consideration their previous training in general practice. This provides an opportunity for IMGs who want to work in Australia while making a positive contribution to the health care of their communities. Progress of each candidate will be monitored by the RACGP during all stages of the program.

The RACGP is accepting eligible applications for the Specialist Pathway from the following three categories: 'fully comparable doctors' (Category 1), 'partially comparable doctors' (Categories 2 + 3). Access the self categorisation tool to identify the eligibility requirements for each category at the link above, before applying to the AMC: Or contact the RACGP on P: 1800 626 901 or E: assessment@racgp.org.au

NSW Rural Doctors Network assistance

Current national medical registration pathways include Specialist, Competent Authority and Standard. For more information on each of these categories, go to www.nswmb.org.au. While there are several pathways to medical registration being developed, RDN finds that many applicants are not eligible for registration in NSW. The RDN Recruitment team is able to identify those applicants who meet New South Wales Medical Board requirements. These doctors may be fully registered, GP specialists or more commonly, applicants who require Area of Need (AoN) medical registration (via the Standard Pathway). Medical Board pre-requisites and RDN's own criteria help to identify those doctors most suited to general practice in rural NSW. If you would like further information on vacancy advertisements, the AoN process or applications and/or recruitment, contact the RDN Recruitment team on P: 02 4924 8060.

Resources

Looking for a Pediatrics Diploma?

The Children's Hospital at Westmead Sydney Diploma in Child Health (DCH) offers a comprehensive overview of basic best practice in child health care. Comprises 111 hours of lectures and supporting material delivered as a distance program via internet or DVD and is conducted as a 1 year program. Course fee for GPs and Registrars start at \$2190.00. Applications are welcome, on-line enrollment is open now. Please visit www.chw.edu.au/dch, or for further information E: Dipch@chw.edu.au or P: 02 9845 0298

Familial cancer assessment tool

A new online tool has been developed by the National Breast and Ovarian Cancer Centre to assist GPs in assessing a woman's risk of ovarian or breast cancer and need for referral based on their family history. To access, visit <http://nbocc.org.au/fraboc/>

New alcoholism treatment guidelines

New guidelines for the management of people with alcohol and other co-occurring mental health or drug problems have been released by the National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre. To access, visit <http://ndarc.med.unsw.edu.au/NDARCWeb.nsf/page/Comorbidity+Guidelines>

The Coroners Cases and the Coroner's Act 2009

There have been significant changes in this area. Details are now available on the NSW Health web site. To access, visit www.health.nsw.gov.au/policies/

NSWRDN Rural General Practitioner Locum Program

The Australian Government has announced a new pilot component of the National Rural Locum Program which will benefit rural and remote GPs. NSW will receive funding for 84 locum days during the initial period; 1 January to 30 June 2010. The number of subsidised locum days is expected to increase annually for each state. Once approved, the subsidies amount to 50% of the daily locum fee (up to \$500 per day for 14 days) as well as travel subsidies up to \$2,000 and travel time up to \$400 per 14 day placement. To register your interest go to www.ruralgplocum.org.au or call the Rural Health Workforce Australia on P: 03 9860 4700 or the NSW Rural Doctors Network on P: 4924 8000.

Workshops and Conferences

RACGP 2010 Clinical Emergency Management™ Programs begin February 2010

Register now for Sydney, Launceston, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide and Perth CEMP workshops. Visit www.racgp.org.au/cem or P: 1800 284 732.

6th Australian update on HIV in Children and Families. 25-26 February 2010. Sydney Children's Hospital.

For more information please P: 02 9382 1654 or email larissa.mackey@sesiahs.health.nsw.gov.au

NSW RDN/ RDA (NSW) 2010 Summer Refresher Conference, 26-28 February, Coffs Harbour

Lectures and workshop topics include Renal Disease in Indigenous Australians, Paediatric Emergencies, Palliative Care, Autism Spectrum Disorders, Infectious Diseases and Sleep Apnoea. Partners and kids activities included. The registration form can be downloaded from www.nswrdn.com.au

17th Annual Women's Health Conference, 26-28 February, Gold Coast.

For more information visit www.whers.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2009/07/whers_broch2010.pdf or contact Julie Buchan on P: 07 4320 4771

Australian Doctor Education seminars present: Mental Health

Sydney Saturday 13 March 2010

Melbourne Saturday 20 March 2010

Brisbane Saturday 27 March 2010

For those GPs who have not done Mental Health Skills Training previously, completing this Category 1 ALM will entitle you to claim the higher rebate for developing Mental Health Plans as per the change in the MBS that took place Jan 1, 2010. To find out more information on topics and speakers please visit www.australiandoctor.com.au/seminars Register at <http://www.australiandoctor.com.au/seminars/Mental2010.htm> or P: 02 9422 2257

Northern Rivers University Department of Rural Health: Basic to Intermediate skills in CBT Training 19-23 April and 17-21 May: Starting out or doing a bit of CBT?

For more information visit the CBT website www.cbtraining.com.au or contact the NRUDRH P: 02 6620 7570

Sydney General Practitioner Conference and Exhibition (GPCE) 21-23 May, Sydney Olympic Park. Register for the conference online <http://www.gpce.com.au/> or P: 1800 358 879.

Australasian College of Skin Cancer Medicine. For more details visit

<http://www.skincancercollege.com/Calendar.aspx>

Certificate 2 day Workshops

Melbourne 20-21 February; Toowoomba 13-14 March; Perth 15-16 May; Sydney 19-20 June, Brisbane 3-4 July, Christchurch 17-18 July

Diploma Courses

Brisbane March 26 - 30, Perth September 24-28

Dermoscopy Weekend for doctors

Brisbane 17-18 April

Goodbye to Liz and Hello to Sharyn

Liz Degotardi will be on maternity leave from 19th February 2010, returning in 2011. Sharyn Corbyn has been employed to fill the OTD Fellowship Support Program position in her absence. For all your enquiries, Sharyn is already available 4 days per week, from our Ballina office on P: 6681 5711 or E: sharync@ncgpt.org.au