

NCGPT events

OTD Exam Preparation Workshop

2010.1 Examination Preparation Workshop weekend written and clinical 30-31 January, Angourie. Registrations are closed. Further information from Liz Degotardi T: 02 6681 5711 E: lizd@ncgpt.org.au

Beyond the Medical Record: creative writing retreat for doctors

12-14 March 2010, Lake Ainsworth Sport and Recreation Centre, Lennox Head. For further information contact Rhonda O'Dell T: 02 6681 5711 E: rhondao@ncgpt.org.au or visit www.ncgpt.org.au/beyond

2010 clinical exam mock examinations

2010.1 OSCE Mock trial - Ballina Office Saturday 17 April 2010
2010.2 OSCE Mock trial - Ballina Office Saturday 9 October 2010

News

Medical registration for overseas trained doctors in Australia

The Specialist Pathway for general practice is on track for implementation from February 2010. The Australian Medical Council (AMC) has formally approved the RACGP Specialist Pathway for doctors who do not have current Australian medical registration. Eligibility criteria for the categories approved so far can be obtained from the RACGP website. A frequently asked questions (FAQs) document is available from the RACGP website www.racgp.org.au/overseastraineddoctors

Applicants who hold these qualifications may download an application form for Overseas Trained Specialists applying for Medical Board Registration from the AMC website www.amc.org.au/images/FormsGeneral/Form-EICS-V2-medboard-spec.pdf

Any overseas trained doctors who do not meet the eligibility criteria to enter the RACGP Specialist Pathway, and those with existing medical registration, can continue to complete the existing college assessment segments via the Australian General Practice Training Program, the Remote Vocational Training Scheme, or the RACGP Practice Eligible Route. Under the RACGP Practice Eligible Route, to be eligible to sit the RACGP Fellowship exams a candidate must have four years full time approved Australian equivalent general practice experience, of which at least one year must have been gained in Australian general practice settings. For further information regarding this route please visit www.racgp.org.au/assessmenthandbook and read 'Background: Assessment for the Fellowship of RACGP and eligibility for assessment'.

English Language Proficiency Policy

The college has introduced a new policy that addresses the standards of English language proficiency required for safe general practice in Australia. The new policy defers to the policy of the AMC, which is administered by the various medical registration boards. Overseas trained doctors employed in Australia or overseas seeking admission to Fellowship will be required to meet these requirements. Proficiency in the English language needs to be demonstrated when applying to one of the following pathways for admission to Fellowship:

- RACGP examination
- RACGP assessment of general practice experience (Australian and/or overseas)
- Practice Based Assessment
- Modular Assessment Pathway, and
- RACGP Specialist Pathway.

For further information visit www.racgp.org.au/assessment/policy

Online learning

New gplearning module

Managing breast symptoms, a new learning module included in the gplearning upgrade, was developed in collaboration with the National Breast and Ovarian Cancer Centre. This module is designed to help improve the early detection and systematic management of breast cancer. Consisting of six individual activities and totalling six hours of structured learning, completion of the module is approved for 40 Category 1 points in the RACGP QA&CPD Program. The module has been approved for women's health and breast medicine points. For further information visit www.gplearning.com.au

PrimEd Diabetic foot (& ulcer) assessment and management

This program equips you with skills to screen and assess patients with diabetes at risk of developing foot ulcers, and much more. The following topics are covered:

- Screening/assessing the diabetic foot
- Educating patients about care of their feet
- Referral protocols
- Assessing diabetic foot ulcers
- Differentiating foot ulcers
- Managing diabetic foot ulcers

The program is free to Australian health professionals.

Register at http://medical.primed.com.au/products/MES2340/MES2340_brochure.cfm

A Fact Sheet for General Practitioners - The Changes to Medicare Primary Care Items from 1 May 2010

This fact sheet sets out the changes to Medicare attendance items for vocationally-recognised General Practitioners as a result of the Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS) Review which will be effective from 1 May 2010.

These include changes to:

- Item descriptors for general attendance items;
- Attendance items out of consulting rooms;
- After hours attendance items;
- Prolonged attendance items;
- Health assessment items;
- Chronic disease management items; and
- GP multidisciplinary case conference items.

For further information visit

[www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/63655B6F92B2927ACA25768B007EC1D7/\\$File/GPfactsheet.pdf](http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/63655B6F92B2927ACA25768B007EC1D7/$File/GPfactsheet.pdf)

GP mental health skills training update

From 1 January 2010, a new schedule fee MBS item of \$125.95 has been introduced for GPs who have not completed accredited mental health skills training (previously known as Level 1 mental health training). The Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing has developed a second fact sheet outlining details regarding registration with Medicare. The fact sheet is available at www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/mental-ba-fact2

Access popular AccessLange titles and Harrison's Online

RACGP members can now access Harrison's Online, featuring the complete contents of Harrison's Principles of Internal Medicine (17th edition) and more than 40 AccessLANGE titles. The AccessLANGE collection includes a several titles from the Current diagnosis and treatment series including Current diagnosis and treatment: Family Medicine and Emergency Medicine. For access to these and other e-texts visit www.racgp.org.au/library/ebooks (login to RACGP site is required).

Training Package for Detecting Youth Depression

The Australian General Practice Network (AGPN) and *beyondblue* have introduced RACGP endorsed training to help GPs, practice nurses and allied health professionals detect and treat depression and anxiety in people aged 12–24 years. The Young Minds: Treating Depression and Anxiety in Young People training package is available free online at www.ebmcbt.com

Medical Practitioners Package from the Department of Veterans' Affairs

The DVA has developed an *Information for Medical Practitioners* package, particularly aimed at newly graduating GPs, those practising in rural and regional areas and GPs who are International Medical Graduates (IMGs). Moreover, it can be utilised as a 'refresher' for any GP who treats members of the veteran community.

The package consists of:

- An introduction
- Three information modules
- A list of web links to information referred to in the modules
- Two useful DVA reference documents- the *DVA Funded Health Services* and *DVA Treatment Entitlement Cards* Charts, and
- A feedback form

The *Information for Medical Practitioners* package is available at www.dva.gov.au/service_providers/doctors/Pages/info.aspx

Workshops and conferences

Pain Management Multidisciplinary Short Course, Sydney, 8-11 and 15-18 February 2010

Two week short course at Royal North Shore Hospital, designed for professionals with an interest in learning about current views and approaches to the assessment and management of pain. More information from Pain Management Research Institute www.pmri.med.usyd.edu.au

Measuring Patient Outcomes. Sydney, 17 and 18 February 2010

More information from <http://www.measuringpatientoutcomes.com>

6th Australian update on HIV in Children and Families, Sydney, 25 and 26 February 2010

For more information contact T: 02 9382 1654 or visit www.sch.edu.au/events/?e=310&t=1

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

Lectures and workshop topics include Renal Disease in Indigenous Australians, Paediatric Emergencies, Palliative Care, Autism Spectrum Disorders, Infectious Diseases and Sleep Apnoea. For more information contact Arna Wotherspoon T: 02 8337 8100 E: conferences@nswrdn.com.au or visit www.nswrdn.com.au

Australian Doctor Education seminars present Mental Health

Sydney 13 March 2010, Melbourne 20 March 2010, Brisbane 27 March 2010

Earn 40 Category 1 points and additional Category 2 points plus complete your basic CPR training. In addition, this seminar will be submitted to the RACGP for accreditation as Mental Health Skills Training. For further information visit www.australiandoctor.com.au/pdf/ADE_MH_2010.pdf

Australian Wound Management Association Conference, Perth, 24-27 March 2010

For more details visit www.conlog.com.au/awma2010/registration.html

Australian Obesity Summit: Policy & Prevention, Sydney, 29 and 30 March 2010

For more information visit www.informa.com.au/conferences/healthcare/the-inaugural-australian-obesity-summit