

## Medicare Australia new eLearning tool

Medicare Australia has released an advanced eLearning program to help health professionals understand their obligations when working with Medicare Benefits Schedule chronic disease management items.

Medicare and you – Chronic Disease Management for GPs covers MBS chronic disease management items for General Practitioners management plans, team care arrangements and allied health items 10950 to 10970.

To access Medicare and you – Chronic Disease Management for GPs please visit Medicare Australia's website [www.medicareaustralia.gov.au/education](http://www.medicareaustralia.gov.au/education)

## Mental health training – Ending soon!

The cut off date to complete Mental Health Skills Training, and maintain access to the higher Medicare service rebates (Items 2710 / 2712) is the 31st December 2009.

If you are a GP registrar or GP who has not completed an accredited Mental Health Skills Training (Level one training) then, complete this online at [www.thinkgp.com.au/education/124735](http://www.thinkgp.com.au/education/124735).

ThinkGP maintains records of completion dates for all activities in case of discrepancy or evidence if disputed.

## National Practice Nurse Workforce Survey 2009

Each Practice Nurse and each Practice Manager is requested to fill in the survey. The information collected is the only comprehensive national dataset on the practice nurse workforce. The survey results provide important information to inform policy makers, government and researchers. AGPN has been collecting this information every two years since 2003. This information assists in planning for the provision of ongoing support for practice nurse recruitment, retention and professional development.

Please click on the link below to do the simple survey which will take between 2-5 minutes. If you require a paper copy, please call 9319 0555.

### Survey Link:

[www.securehost-au.com/aussiethink-com-au/AGPN/Gate.asp](http://www.securehost-au.com/aussiethink-com-au/AGPN/Gate.asp)

## Still not getting electronic discharge summaries?

Royal Perth, Fremantle, Swans, Bentley, Bunbury and Mental Health, PMH are all sending electronic discharge summaries to GPs. We can now send into Medical Director, Best Practice, Medtech 32, Genie, Practix, Monet, Medical Spectrum Classic, Surgiware, Zedmed and MMEX.

If your practice would like to receive them, please contact GREG HAYES from HealthLink on 0412 474 950.

NB If your practice is already registered but is changing software please contact 1300554563 ext 1 for HealthLink messaging enquiries to ensure you still get your discharge summaries.

## Department of Health Immunisation Courses for Practice Nurses

The 5 week self paced, distance education program is designed as a flexible learning program. The course content is aligned to the National Health and Medical Research Council guidelines and standards of practice. There are intakes each month and the cost of the course is \$50.

If you are interested, please contact Palee Kaur on 9319 0555 for more information and a registration form.

## AGPAL General Practice Awards 2010

Delivering safe, high quality health care within a general practice requires time, effort and a passion for excellence. AGPAL is offering the opportunity for your practice to be recognised and rewarded for their achievements in improving quality.

### Nominations are now open for the:

- AGPAL Quality Innovation Award, and
- AGPAL Consumer Involvement Award

If your practice has introduced an innovative solution and/or has increased consumer involvement which has improved the delivery of safe, high quality care, AGPAL would like to hear from you. Full details of eligibility criteria, nomination and judging process can also be downloaded from AGPAL website [www.qip.com.au](http://www.qip.com.au). Nominations close 28 February 2010.

## Caresearch

Is a website which provides evidence based palliative care information and resources for those providing palliative care and those affected by palliative care. There are many resources within CareSearch that may be of interest to GPs and these can be located at [www.caresearch.com.au](http://www.caresearch.com.au)