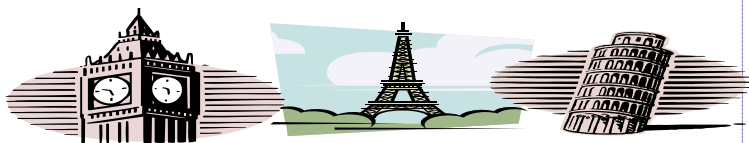


Nursing Network

*Welcome to the latest edition of "Nursing Network",
the newsletter for Practice Nurses.*

There are some extremely interesting workshops being held for Practice Nurses over the coming months; please see the FGPN Events Calendar on page 4. As well as the professional development offered at these events it is a wonderful opportunity to network with other nurses in our Division.



Hullo to you all and welcome to those who have recently joined the wonderful world of Practice Nursing.

Yes, I am back from my five weeks holiday—my first trip to Europe. For those who have been I am sure you will agree it is fantastic experience, the rest of you start saving!

I traveled with a friend (louder and madder than me) to Rome, Venice, Lake Como, Nice, Paris, London and Hong Kong (for a rest on the way home). We had a fantastic time, my Italian improved—did 3 years at school a long time ago—French quite poor but we really had no problems and enjoyed the challenge. You only need to know how to order coffee and wine!

Kind regards

Gae

Nursing in General Practice Program

WA General Practice Network (Division State Office) has funding available through the Nursing in General Practice Program for Practice Nurses to participate in various courses.

Courses now available include:

- **1 day Wound Care Course**
- **3 day Asthma Educator Course**

For information on all of the courses available, or for further details on the above two courses, please contact Gae Sawyer on 9319 0555 or email Gae on gaes@frdgp.com.au.

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Practice Nurse Profile

Fremantle GP Network Events

Please see Page 4 for complete details

- June 20** Family & Domestic Violence Workshop
- June 20** Teams of Two Amphetamines & Psychosis
- July 25** Teams of Two Drugs, Sexual Hlth & Pregnancy
- July 28** Teams of Two Clinical Workshop
- August 8** Safety in the Workplace
- August 26** City to Surf Fun Run



National Breast Cancer Centre

**Better Communication,
Communication Skills Training**

The National Breast Cancer Centre has launched a new website dedicated to supporting and promoting *communication skills training* for all cancer health professionals.

The website, viewed at www.nbcc.org.au/commskills, aims to support health professionals to implement evidence-based communication skills training at a local level. It also promotes communication skills as a compulsory professional competence for all health professionals.

Chair of the National Breast Cancer Centre's Communication Skills Training Steering Committee, Professor Phyllis Butow from the University of Sydney, said effective communication is a key element of cancer care. "Evidence shows effective communication between health professionals and people with cancer not only improves understanding and satisfaction with care, but can also assist people in adjusting to a diagnosis of cancer. The National Breast Cancer Centre's website brings together health professionals with an interest in communication skills – providing information and support to build capacity for future training."

Key features of the website include:

- An outline of the evidence supporting communication skills training.
- Information about the National Breast Cancer Centre's Communication Skills Training Initiative including the provision of workshop grants.
- A calendar of upcoming workshops and events across Australia.
- Citations of recently published articles and research in the area.
- An overview of national providers of communication skills training.
- An email alert notifying subscribers of upcoming initiatives.

The website is a dynamic resource with content regularly updated to reflect the latest developments in communication skills training and upcoming events.



The National Breast Cancer Centre is funded by the Australian Government and works with consumers, health professionals, cancer organisations, researchers and governments to improve health outcomes in breast and ovarian cancer.

Media contact:
Bree Stevens 0438 209 833

"CAN DO" - Teams of Two Co morbidity Module

Fremantle GP Network has been selected to participate in an exciting new national program for General Practitioners, Community Pharmacists, Drug and Alcohol Professionals and Mental Health Professionals. The "CAN DO" *Teams of Two: Joint learning initiative Co morbidity Module* is a collaborative effort of the Alliance of NSW Divisions and the Australian General Practice Network funded through the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing and based on work undertaken previously with the NSW Department of Health.

It is the result of extensive consultation with GPs, Psychiatrists, Community Pharmacists, Divisions of General Practice and Mental Health and Drug and Alcohol Services. "Can Do" builds on work already undertaken to address shared care/partnership issues in order to ensure a smoother ride for people experiencing mental health and drug and alcohol disorders.

A series of three two hour multi-disciplinary learning units are being offered. The workshops use case discussion to problem solve the practicalities of working together. The module has been designed with material relevant to GPs, Practice Nurses, Community Pharmacists, Mental Health clinicians and Drug and Alcohol clinicians.

Please see the enclosed flyer for information on the workshops. Please contact Daniele on 9319 055 or email danielem@frdgp.com.au to register.

**July 22 to 28 2007
AMA Family Doctor Week**

The goal of AMAs Family Doctor Week is to promote the importance of general practice in our communities and how central GPs are to the health and well being of Australians.

Please view the resources available to GPs on the AMA website www.ama.com.au.

To order posters and other material please contact:
Wendy Lorincz on lorincz@ama.com.au or,
telephone 02 6270 5426.

The Heart Foundation has developed a new range of CPR Resources.

These include: *CPR—Saving Lives* booklet, poster and wallet card.

You can order these resources by calling the Heart Foundation Bulk Order Number 1300 30 56 58



Contenance Management and Advice Service (CMAS)

The Contenance Management and Advice Service is a community based service providing access to assessment and advice for people who have a chronic incontinence condition. Referrals for ongoing care and a product subsidy of up to \$470 per year may also be available to eligible clients. Eligibility Criteria include:

- Aged over 18 years.
- Have had chronic incontinence condition for more than 6 months.
- Have a Pensioner Concession Card or Health Care Card.
- Are not receiving financial assistance for continence products through any other scheme.
- Have been a permanent resident of Western Australia for at least 6 months.

The service is funded by the Department of Health and the Disability Services Commission. The service will be available through a network of Silver Chain Clinics.

Although a referral from a General Practitioner is not required patients are recommended to contact their doctor concerning their condition as tests can be done to identify the cause of the problem.

For further information please call the Contenance Management and Advice Service on 1300 787 055.



Asthma Management Chart Updated

The National Asthma Council (NAC) has released an updated version of the popular "Managing Your Asthma" wall chart.

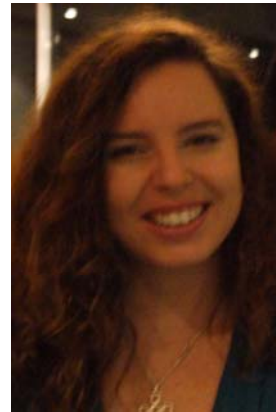
This chart is designed to help health professionals discuss asthma medications with patients. The new wall chart features up to date colour photos of 43 different asthma medications available in Australia today.

This chart can be viewed at www.nationalasthma.org.au.



FREE copies can be ordered directly by contacting the NAC on 1800 032 495

New IM Officer—Suzanne Velarde



Suzanne Velarde has taken on the Information Management role in addition to roles in Publicity and Business Development. If your practice needs any advice regarding Information Management please do not hesitate to give Suzanne a call on 9319 0555 or email suzannev@frdgp.com.au.

The Flu and You

The Flu and You brochure and poster series is a reminder of hygienic practices that should be adopted to reduce the spread of the highly contagious respiratory illness.

The material can be found at www.health.gov.au/fluandyou

Common colds need common sense, not antibiotics. Tear-off 'Symptomatic Management Pads' available for patients.

Prescribing antibiotics for self-limiting conditions can reinforce some patients' erroneous beliefs that antibiotics are 'cure-alls' for infections. The National Prescribing Service has developed several patient materials to support doctors to explain to consumers the most effective way to treat the symptoms of colds and flu without using antibiotics.

One of these resources is the Symptomatic Management Pad for Acute URIs and Acute Bronchitis. These pads are extremely effective in assuring the patient that the best treatment options have been considered to assist them to feel better while the body's own defences defeat the respiratory tract illness.

You can download Common Colds Campaign materials from the NPS website at www.nps.org.au/healthpro > Topics and Resources > Products > Patient materials.

Alternatively call Lorna Hurst on 9319 0555 to obtain supplies of the pads.



**PROFILE ON
Gabrielle Townsend
Practice Nurse
Melville Family Health Centre**

How long have you worked at

**Melville Medical
Family Doctors?**
Four and a half years.

**What is your role at Melville Medical Family
Doctors?**
Practice Nurse

**What is your next planned project at Melville Medical
Family Doctors?**
Further education for myself.

How do you intend to celebrate the successful completion of this project? Swim to Rotto, walk the Bibbulmun Track?
With a bottle of Cloudy Bay Chardonnay and friends.

What famous person would you like seated next to you at your next workshop?
Cary Grant (if he was still alive) because he is hot!

Where would you like to go on your next holiday?
Paris in the spring.

Where are you actually going on your next holiday?
Gnarloo Station (between Carnarvon and Coral Bay).

If you were not working at Melville Medical Family Doctors where would you like to be, or who would you like to be?
The Minister for Health—to try and improve the mess he has made.

What/who is your favourite
Car Subaru
Author Mitch Albom "Tuesdays with Morrie"
Shop Morrison's Boutique
Drink Cloudy Bay Chardonnay

And finally, Gabrielle, if you were shipwrecked on a deserted island name what/who you would like with you.

3 people Husband, Dalai Lama and Robin Williams
2 foods Tim Tams and Thai
2 books To Marry Merv, Never Say Never.
1 Pet Dog

WHO ARE WE PROFILING NEXT??

Well that is up to you.

Please call Gae or Suzanne Badham on 9319 0555 to nominate a member of your staff.

Fremantle GP Network Events

June 20

Family & Domestic Violence Workshop for Practice Nurses

FGPN, 10 Silas St, East Fremantle

6.30pm for a light supper

7.00pm to 9.00pm workshop.

This is an interactive workshop where you will have the opportunity to learn:

- What is Family and Domestic Violence?
- Appropriate ways to respond to patients who present with a background of Family and Domestic Violence;
- Where to find key Family and Domestic Violence support services.

June 20

Drug & Alcohol and Mental Health Co-morbidity

- **Amphetamines and Psychosis**

For Practice Nurses, GPs and Practice Staff

Breakfast Meeting—Café Ambience

7.00am—9.00am

Please see enclosed flyer for full details.

25 July

Drug & Alcohol and Mental Health Co-morbidity

- **Drugs, Sexual Health & Pregnancy**

For Practice Nurses, GPs and Practice Staff

Details to be advised at a later date

28 July

Drug & Alcohol and Mental Health Co-morbidity

- **Clinical Workshop**

For Practice Nurses, GPs and Practice Staff

Details to be advised at a later date

August 8

Safety in the Workplace

A workshop for Practice Nurses, Practice Managers, and Practice Staff.

6.00pm - 8.30pm

Venue—to be advised

This is an extremely popular event will be presented by the Police Crime Prevention Unit. As we are expecting a larger than usual number of attendees we would appreciate your early response to enable us to confirm the venue.

August 26

City to Surf Fun Run

GPs, Practice Nurses, Practice Staff, friends and families all welcome!

Contact Gae, Kelli, or Suzanne on 9319 055 for further information

Fremantle GP Network constantly strives to improve the quality and range of services to our practices and welcomes positive feedback and complaints. We invite you to send your comments to reception@frdgp.com.au