

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CALL 9319 0555

Are you missing out? Find out more about the National Prescribing Service Educational Visiting Program

Educational visiting is just one of the evidence-based strategies developed by the National Prescribing Service (NPS) to improve the quality use of medicines (QUM). In Australia and internationally, educational visiting has been shown to be a robust strategy for encouraging health professionals to implement change and incorporate QUM into their daily practice. Information and discussion can be tailored to meet the individual needs of participants. These visits, usually approximately 30 minutes in duration, are provided free of charge at a time and location convenient to the GP.

Our NPS Facilitator, Deirdre Criddle, is specially trained to provide one-to-one or small group case studies focusing on the delivery of key therapeutic messages. Prior to delivering a specific topic, Deirdre receives specialised training in clinical therapeutics and evidence supporting each topic. We are currently visiting on 'Therapeutic choices for menopausal symptoms' and will commence a new topic 'Management options to maximise sleep' in April 2010.

These activities are recognised by a number of health professional bodies as contributing to continuing professional development and also qualify as an activity for the Quality Prescribing Initiative (QPI) of the Practice Incentives Program (PIP).

To view a 2-minute video clip to give you a glimpse of what happens at a one-to-one educational visit, please go to:
http://www.nps.org.au/health_professionals/activities/nps_facilitator_visits

To book a one-to-one educational visit or a small group case study at your practice, please call Lorna Hurst on 9319 0555.

Free access to Australian Prescriber

"Australian Prescriber has a unique approach, balanced and impartial, you can trust it."

Australian Prescriber, an independent review providing critical commentary on therapeutic topics for health professionals, is published every two months by the National Prescribing Service Ltd.

The February 2010 edition includes articles on the following:

- Prescription drug subsidies in Australia and New Zealand (editorial).
- Point-of-care testing comes of age in Australia
- Adverse reactions and Australian Prescriber : back to the future
- Safe use of radiographic contrast media
- New drug reviews: ambrisentan, golimumab, lacosamide, prasugrel.

To download a copy of Australian Prescriber or to subscribe to e-alerts, electronic or hard copy, go to:

<http://www.australianprescriber.com/>

Changes to DVA Cards in 2010

From March 2010, the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) will begin reissuing improved Repatriation Health Cards (DVA cards) to all eligible veterans, war widows and widowers and dependants.

Visit www.dva.gov.au/benefitsAndServices/health/health_cards/Pages/changes_march_2010.aspx.

PRACSOFT and Integrated Medicare Easyclaim

Please contact a member of the PLP team if you would like us to deliver a Integrated Medicare Easyclaim information pack to you.

Telephone 9319 0555 or email reception@fremantlegpnetwork.com.au.

News from the National Vascular Disease Prevention Alliance (NVDPA): updated online calculator for measuring cardiovascular disease (CVD) risk now available at

www.cvdcheck.org.au.

If you're interested in measuring your patients' five-year risk of getting CVD, make sure you visit our recently updated website www.cvdcheck.org.au. On this website you will find:

- the newly updated online CVD risk calculator for you to use with your patients
- a downloadable desktop version of the updated calculator
- easy-to-understand information explaining absolute CVD risk and what a risk score means
- a Q&A page that addresses frequently asked questions about absolute CVD risk
- links to other useful resources for measuring CVD risk and preventing CVD

The calculator and other information on the website are based on the 2009 Australian Guidelines for the assessment of absolute cardiovascular disease risk developed by the NVDPA and endorsed by the National Health and Medical Research Council.

NVDPA members include the National Heart Foundation of Australia, National Stroke Foundation, Kidney Health Australia and Diabetes Australia.

New Heart Foundation practice tools for managing hypertension – NOW AVAILABLE

Based on the Guide to management of hypertension 2008, new tools to help busy health professionals treat people with hypertension are now available.

• Wall Chart	BP management algorithms
• Quick Reference Guide	Drug treatment algorithms for BP
	Treatment targets for BP
• Slide Presentation	Australian absolute cardiovascular risk charts

For ordering print copies, contact our Health Information Service on 1300 36 27 87 or email health@heartfoundation.org.au. The slide presentation can be downloaded from www.heartfoundation.org.au/Professional_Information/Clinical_Practice/Hypertension

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1pm - 12 midnight

** Times may be subject to doctor availability*

- *Health Care Card, Pensioner Concession Card holders & children under 16 years are bulk billed.*
- *Non-concession card holders - Medicare rebate plus \$20*

We are located at:

Block A,
Fremantle Hospital
South Terrace
Fremantle
(enter via South Terrace)
Ph: 9430 8912
(opening hours only)



After Hours