

July 2008 – Issue 15 SA&NT Faculty

MyPracticeTeam

New links and resources! Online video demonstration!

Head over to the RACGP website to see a new video demonstration clip which highlights all the great features offered on MyPracticeTeam. This clip runs for just over 6 minutes; why not show the clip at your next training session? To view go to www.racgp.org.au/mygeneralpractice.

Please let your colleagues know that gaining access to MyPracticeTeam is simple: visit www.mygeneralpractice.org.au and click on the 'Install' button, then choosing 'Download Vividesk Desktop'. They can also view a demonstration which provides detailed information about the resource. If they encounter any difficulties with the download, they can call our Helpdesk on 1800 284 789.

We are always keen to hear from our members. Please send any feedback about how MyPracticeTeam can offer the support you need to contactus@mygeneralpractice.org.au.





A COLLEGE MEMBER SEEKS YOUR SUPPORT......

I am writing to you as a fellow General Practitioner, independent to my position of SA&NT Chair, to seek your support for my involvement in the Medical Board of South Australia. Currently, the Medical Board of South Australia has one vacancy for a medical practitioner and I have nominated for that board position. I understand their are two nominations including myself, the other being a specialist.

As you might know, I am an overseas trained General Practitioner, graduating in 1975, with over 30 years experience, including 10 years hospital systems in both Australia and overseas. I am currently in a teaching 6 GP medical practice in Modbury and involved in registrar and undergraduate teaching. I am also a principal surveyor with AGPAL and actively involved in VTASC (Vocational Training Accreditation Sub Committee).

As Chair of the RACGP - SA&NT Faculty, I have a good understanding of medical services in both private and public sectors, and have associations with local stakeholder groups. I bring with me a strong background of ensuring standards in medical practices, and look forward to being able to contribute to the Medical Board of South Australia.

I strongly believe that as a general practitioner, together with my overseas training, this experience will benefit the Medical Board of South Australia. I would greatly appreciate your support to ensure the college is represented in the future.

Dr Rakesh Mohindra





proudly supports

RACGP Medical Training Courses

- Held at College House, 15 Gover Street, North Adelaide
- Light tea served at 6:30pm and refreshments served during the break
- Courses run from 7:00pm 9:30pm and cost: \$60 for members/\$80 for non-members

Tuesday 19 August - Emergencies for Practice Nurses

Speaker: Dr Hugh Grantham, Director SA Ambulance Services

The general aim of this new course is to refresh existing emergency skills and learn new skills such as defibrillation **Specific topics covered will be:**

- IV Insertion
- Airway management including laryngeal mask
- Rhythm recognition and defibrillation
- First line emergency drug therapy for adrenalin, naloxone, atropine, amiodarone and opiate analgesia

Tuesday 2 September – Week I, Sterilization (Theory)

Speaker: Ms Sylvia Morris - Sterilization Services Training Manager, QEH About the presentation:

- Standards Australia (AS4815). This course is presented within the guidelines of AGPAL accreditation.
- Cleaning of medical and surgical equipment
- Packaging medical and surgical equipment ready for sterilization.
- Loading of sterilizers
- Documentation
- Troubleshooting

Tuesday, 9 September - Week 2, Sterilization (Practical)

* Held at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital *

Speaker: Ms Sylvia Morris - Sterilization Services Training Manager, QEH

Sylvia has 30 years experience as a Department Head of a Central Sterilizing Department and is currently the Sterilization Services Training Manager at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital at Woodville. By popular demand Sylvia has formulated a practical "hands on" workshop to be held at The Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Sterilization Department from 6:00pm - 9:00pm with light refreshments. Limited numbers so please book early!

About the presentation:

- Cleaning of medical and surgical equipment
- Packaging medical & surgical equipment
- Storage of sterile stock
- Using the sterilizer and much more!

Tuesday, 30 September - Managing a Healthy Practice

Speaker: Verna Blewett - Renowned Facilitator, Trainer and Educator

For the last 25 years Verna has been helping organisations of all sizes to improve. Her work focuses on organisational development, particularly at times of change, occupational health and safety and ergonomics.

About the presentation:

- Identify the features of a workplace that make it healthy and safe
- Set up the physical work environment for improved safety and health
- Establish a healthy and safe psychosocial work environment
- Meet your legal obligations under Occupational Health, Safety and Welfare Act

For further information or a registration form please contact Carolyn McInarlin on (08) 8267 8312 or via email carolyn.mcinarlin@racgp.org.au



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Yarrow Place Rape & Sexual Assault Service Forensic Medicine Short Course

3rd & 4th of September (9am - 5pm) and 5th of September (am)

This course has been developed to increase doctors' knowledge and skills in providing services to people who have been sexually assaulted. The course looks at the context and impact of sexual violence, associated medical issues, forensic examinations and medico legal processes.

Forensic skills learned are very useful and relevant to other areas of GP work including medico-legal report writing, assessing physical assaults and providing evidence in court.

The course is free of charge and 30 category I CPD points have been allocated and will be at Yarrow Place, 55 King William Road, North Adelaide.

Contact Dr Lyndall Young, Forensic Physician or Christine Robinson on (08) 8226 8777 for further information.



IT'S A MAN THING: RIDE ROUND THE PLANET FOR PROSTATE CANCER RESEARCH

Melbourne Man to Ride around the World to Support Prostate Cancer Awareness

A Melbourne man will take his campaign for prostate cancer awareness on the road next year, as he circumnavigates the planet by motorcycle in order to boost the profile of the devastating illness. Simon Buckley, 30, of Richmond, Victoria will ride overland from Melbourne to London via South East Asia, China, Mongolia, Russia, Kazakhstan, and Eastern Europe before returning home via the United States, South America and New Zealand. According to Buckley, the 10-month trip aims to demonstrate the lengths individuals will go to in order to get men's health issues on the public agenda.

"Despite recently gaining the support of several high-profile Australian men, prostate cancer research continues to be underfunded and men across the world remain reluctant to openly discuss male health issues," Buckley said. "Prostate cancer is a global issue and, for me, the trip is a grassroots attempt to get ordinary men talking about their health with doctors, family, friends and each other. I want to do something to support men's health and do it in a blokey way."

"Awareness has two different strands. On the one hand, it's about men knowing their options and understanding what the issues are, but it's also about grabbing people's attention and ensuring they are willing to help find a cure."

Buckley said he hopes to help national and local cancer organisations in the cities he visits en route. Buckley has already aligned with the Prostate Cancer Foundation Australia (PCFA) and the European-based Association of International Cancer Research (AICR) and hopes to form further ties locally and overseas during his trip. "The plan is to link in with the activities of different awareness organisations around the globe. I expect to meet with a range of health and community groups and to support their awareness and fundraising efforts by providing them with a reason to reach out to the community and by helping to get the message out there," Buckley said.

While he has no personal experience of the cancer, Buckley argued that education and awareness are essential for all men if the disease is to be effectively tackled. "Prostate cancer is now the most common cancer among men in many countries, and research projects continue to compete for limited funds in the search for a cure," Buckley said. "It's too late to do something about prevention when you are already affected. It's crucial that men understand the value of being proactive about their health in a way that women have been doing for years."

"A recent study by the PCFA showed that while nearly 80% of women felt well informed about breast cancer, only 52% of men felt informed about prostate cancer. The whole idea of the trip is to bridge that gap and help bring awareness of prostate cancer up to the same level."

Buckley said while he had planned a route for the trip, he was flexible about going where his support was needed. "There is a higher mortality rate from prostate cancer in regional Australia due, in part, to a lack of awareness and unwillingness to talk openly about the reality of digital rectal examinations," he said. "I have no problem discussing these sorts of things because I suspect it's going to be a whole lot more uncomfortable to sit on a bike for ten months, than it is to spend a few seconds having a rectal examination."

Currently there are 12,000 new prostate cancer cases diagnosed in Australia each year. The UK registers 30,000 new cases of prostate cancer every year and there are 215,000 in the USA and 20,000 in Canada annually. Buckley said he intends to measure the success of his trip through his involvement in events and by increasing the supporter membership of the RideRightRound website. To support the project or for further information, visit www.riderightround.com

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