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PRACTICE NURSE ABORIGINAL HEALTH WORKER NEWS

**Can't get away to do your
 Continuing Professional Development Training?
 Apply to NAHRLS for someone to fill in for you while you are away...**

The Australian Government has established the Nursing and Allied Health Rural Locum Scheme (NAHRLS) to support nurses, midwives and allied health professionals in rural and regional Australia to get away to do the professional development training they need to continue their vital work.

NAHRLS will find you and your workplace a suitable locum for the period you are away. The scheme supports all locum recruitment, travel and accommodation costs. Organisations can also apply for locum support for their staff.

The Nursing and Allied Health Rural Locum Scheme (NAHRLS) has opened first round applications for locum support. Applications are open from May 13 to June 24 for CPD activities to be undertaken from July 1 to September 30 2011.

For more information, please visit the website <http://www.nahrls.com.au>

**Patient Identification
 Cultural Awareness
 Indigenous PIP
 PBS Co-payment
 MBS 715
 Diabetes Risk
 GPMP & TCA
 Referral Pathways
 Care Co-ordination**



Free Cultural Competence Workshops for Mental Health Practitioners and GPs

The Australian Indigenous Psychologists Association (AIPA) invites mental health practitioners and GPs to register their interest in attending a free workshop:

Working Together:

Journey towards Cultural Competence for Non-Indigenous Mental Health Practitioners

This two-day workshop has been specifically designed to provide non-Indigenous mental health practitioners with the skills, knowledge and attitudes to work with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples within a social and emotional wellbeing framework.

Each workshop will be facilitated by two Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander psychologists and aims to close the gap in social and emotional wellbeing and mental health outcomes between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non-Indigenous Australians.

This is a free workshop and places are limited.

100% of participants (psychiatrists, doctors, mental health nurses, psychologists, social workers) who have completed this workshop said they would recommend it to others.

Dates: **Adelaide 30th June – 1st July** 8.30am – 4.00pm Stamford Grand Adelaide

Sydney * 4th – 5th July 8.30am – 4.00pm The Grace Hotel

The Sydney workshop will have a "Substance Abuse" focus

Melbourne 11th – 12th July 8.30am – 4.00pm Oaks on Collins RSVP 23rd June

More information about the workshops is available at:

www.indigenouspsychology.com.au/workshop/about-the-workshops/

To register your interest in attending one of the workshops please go to:

www.secureregistrations.com/aipa11

AIPA is pleased to advise Wise Connections is managing the registration process for the workshops. For more information please email culturalcompetence@wiseconnections.com.au

Australian Indigenous Psychologists Association (AIPA) www.indigenouspsychology.com.au

PRACTICE NURSE ABORIGINAL HEALTH WORKER NEWS

Media Release

14 June 2011



New program provides opportunities for practice nurses and general practice

The Practice Nurse Incentive Program (PNIP) which starts on 1st January 2012 will bring great opportunities to nurses, GPs, general practices and consumers, according to participants of a workshop convened in Melbourne recently.

The two day meeting, hosted by APNA, sought advice from practice nurses, general practitioners, practice managers and policy makers, on the impact and opportunities presented by the PNIP.

Practice manager, Robyn Moore, said she had done the modelling for her Central Coast practice in NSW and was confident it would be better off under the changes. "It is a good time for practices to review their business model and make some changes. We already know that nurses working in general practice do far more than what they are funded for under Medicare items and this new program provides the opportunity for nurses to work to their full scope of practice and generate more business for the practice."

APNA vice president Karen Booth is both a practice nurse and manager of a busy general practice in Sydney. She says the changes to funding to support nursing positions in general practice under the PNIP better recognise the contribution of nurses than the current funding. "The PNIP funding model is not tied to a particular area of clinical work but allows general practice to employ nurses to work collaboratively within a multidisciplinary team in response to the needs of local communities."

The PNIP includes incentives for eligible general practices to employ nurses to assist in the delivery of essential primary health care services in the community. Grandparenting arrangements will be in place for the first three years of the program to ensure practices are not financially disadvantaged.

APNA Professional Services Manager Steve Webster said a number of resources were being developed and would be available from early September 2011 to assist nurses, GPs and practice managers through the transition to the new PNIP. APNA has received funding from the Department of Health and Ageing to assist with the development of these resources.

"Our meeting in Melbourne this week has helped to clarify the key areas of concern and inform the development of a range of resources to assist nurses in general practice as well as GPs and practice managers, in this transitional period. There are numerous examples of the great benefits nurses bring to general practice that can be enhanced and expanded under this new program and we want to make sure this is understood and acknowledged."

Resources including DVDs, publications, business models, online education and training, webinars and fact sheets will be available in coming months through APNA (www.apna.asn.au), AGPN (www.agpn.com.au) and other professional bodies. More information on the Practice Nurse Incentive Program is available from www.yourhealth.gov.au

For more information please contact:

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APNA is the peak professional body for nurses working in primary health care including general practice. With 3000 members, APNA provide primary health care nurses with a voice, access to quality continuing professional development, educational resources, support and networking opportunities. APNA continually strives to increase awareness of the role of the primary health care nurse, and to be a dynamic and vibrant organisation for its members.