



Weekly News

Wednesday 5th May 2010

Please distribute to GPs and staff in your practice

WEEKLY NEWS NOW AVAILABLE ON OUR PUBLICATIONS PAGE VISIT www.gpnn.org.au

- GPNN have recently released a Publications Page containing both current and past editions of the Weekly News, Education Bulletins, Northside Navigator & Public Health Updates

MOVING ON: A SELF-MANAGEMENT PROGRAM FOR PEOPLE WITH A CHRONIC ILLNESS

- GP Network Northside is currently working with Arthritis NSW and the UNSW Centre for Primary Health Care and Equity, who are completing a research study which evaluates a new chronic disease self-management program called Moving On
- Moving On was developed by Arthritis NSW in partnership with the National Prescribing Service
- The program aims to help participants manage their chronic illness by challenging unhealthy behaviours and attitudes as well as providing the knowledge and skills for positive change
- For more information contact your **Practice Support Officer** on **9477 8700** or visit www.arthritisnsw.org.au

DO YOU HAVE ANY PATIENTS EXPERIENCING ANTENATAL OR POSTNATAL DEPRESSION?

- Have you considered ATAPS? GPNN is currently accepting referrals under the National Perinatal Depression Initiative, for patients diagnosed with antenatal or postnatal depression.
- Referrals are limited and will be allocated on a first come first served basis
- For more information please visit our website www.gpnn.org.au or phone **9477 8700**

NEW NATIONAL REGISTRATION STANDARDS NOW AVAILABLE

- The ten national health profession boards covered by the National Law have published Approved Registration Standards which will take effect on 1 July 2010. See the National Board websites under Registration Standards and Related Matters for registration standards & profession specific fact sheets
- The MBA has also published its new code of conduct for doctors and guidelines on mandatory reporting and advertising. For more information visit www.ahpra.gov.au

FINDING EVIDENCE-RECOGNISING HYPE

- One hour long interactive small group meeting to discuss your information needs around new drugs, including how to access independent information to support evidence-based decision making about new drugs
- Contact the **NPS Facilitators** at GPNN on **9477 8700** for more information



IMPORTANT INFORMATION ON CLAIMING THE BULK-BILLING INCENTIVE FOR AFTER HOURS SERVICES

- Between 1 May 2010 and 1 July 2010 doctors claiming the higher bulk-billing incentive for MBS items 597, 598, 599 or 600 will need to use a new item 10985. On 1 July doctors should resume using item 10992. From 1 May 2010, doctors claiming the higher bulk-billing incentive for after hours items 5003-5267 should continue to use item 10992
- Eligible areas remain unchanged. Items 10990 and 10991 remain unchanged
- The new item descriptor for 10985 is set out below

| Item | Health Service | Fee |
|-------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| 10985 | A medical service to which item 597, 598, 599 or 600 applies if: (a) the service is an unreferral service; and (b) the service is provided to a person who is under the age of 16 or is a Commonwealth concession card holder; and (c) the person is not an admitted patient of a hospital; and (d) the service is not provided in consulting rooms; and (e) the service is provided in an eligible area; and (f) the service is provided by, or on behalf of, a medical practitioner whose practice location is not in an eligible area; and (g) the service is bulk billed in respect of the fees for: (i) this item; and (ii) the other item in this table applying to the service | \$10.05 |

- If you have any enquiries please contact **Tracy Thompson** at Department of Health and Aging on **02 6289 1938** or Tracy.Thompson@health.gov.au