

Tuesday 13 December 2011 - Issue 23-11/12

CONGRATULATIONS TO!

- ❖ Dr Puneet Grover of the Echuca Moama Family Medical Practice, who has recently passed the RACGP Fellowship Exams.
- ❖ Dr Rifat Rifat of the Rich River Health Group who has become the first international medical graduate to achieve Fellowship of ACRRM on the Specialist Pathway.

MEASLES INFORMATION - (12 MINUTES VIDEO)

This may be of interest. Especially for some GPs who may have never seen a case of measles. This was developed by Queensland Health Communicable Disease Branch. Their aim is to increase awareness among clinicians of measles – what to look for and what to do if they suspect a case. This is relevant to all who work in General Practice and ED; however who to report possible cases to will differ from state to state. Don't hit the 'full screen' button because then you can't view the slides. The presenters are Dr Brad McCall, public health physician from Brisbane South and Dr Michael Nissan, infectious disease physician.

<http://qigtv.rampms.com/qigtv/Viewer/?peid=d96023bf3e4645ae9e854622d81e959a1d>

TGA TO CANCEL ALL DEXTROPROPOXYPHENE PAIN-KILLERS

Effective from 1 March 2012, all pain-killers (analgesics) containing dextropropoxyphene will be cancelled from the Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods.

Subsequent to a review of on-hand evidence, the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) announced the safety concerns of taking dextropropoxyphene-containing pain-killers outweighed any positive effects.

Following the cancellation date, supply of prescription medicines such as Capadex, Di-Gesic, Doloxene or Paradex in Australia will cease.

Anyone using these medicines is encouraged to arrange with their GP to transfer to alternative pain-relief, prior to March next year.

Enquiries on this issue can be directed to Dr Jason Ferla, Acting Principal Medical Advisor, Therapeutic Goods Administration; via email at jason.ferla@tga.gov.au or on 02 6232 8210.

For more information see the [TGA announcement](#).

RURAL LEAP: CITY GPs CAN EARN THEIR EMERGENCY STRIPES (AND \$6,000)

The Rural LEAP program offers urban GPs (working in ASCG-RA 1) paid emergency medicine training in exchange for undertaking locum placements in rural or regional areas. You can complete a maximum of three days approved emergency medicine training and receive payment of up to \$6,000 (based on a rate of \$2,000 per day). In return, you agree to undertake 20 paid working days of locum placement in a rural locality (ASGC-RA 2 - 5). Apply to ACRRM using the official [application form](#). You can also email the College for more information: trrgpp@acrrm.org.au

Source – ACRRM Country Watch 9/12/11

THE ROYAL CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL HAS MOVED

- Referrals have been transferred to the new hospital and contact details remain the same.
- **Please call to confirm receipt of referral if you have not heard back from the RCH two weeks after sending your referral.**
- RCH Specialist clinics general queries tel: 9345 6180
- See [Top tips](#) for more information (contact details, parking, referring and more).

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MY LANGUAGE - A NEW WEBSITE FOR MULTICULTURAL AUSTRALIA

After six years of operation, a web portal to millions of multicultural information resources was relaunched this month as MyLanguage. Visit: <http://mylanguage.gov.au/>
The portal is a valuable language tool to assist new and emerging Australian communities to find important pieces of information about services such as health, education, housing and the justice system. It provides links to multilingual web sites in more than 65 languages.
MyLanguage is a joint partnership with the State Libraries of Victoria, NSW, QLD and WA and Public Library Services of SA, the NT Library and Libraries ACT.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT PETER MAC REFERRALS

Many of the specialist clinics at Peter Mac are now MBS funded services. This has been implemented in line with the DHS guidelines on MBS clinics in Victorian Public Hospitals. There are more details on the Peter Mac website www.petermac.org/ReferringPatients

Patients are bulk billed and there is no out of pocket cost.

Referrals(12 months or indefinite) need to be to a **named specialist**

- a) This can be of your choice
- b) If you are uncertain please refer to heads of department eg
 - A/Prof Andrew Herriot (Surgical Oncology)
 - A/Prof Danny Rischin (Medical Oncology)
 - Prof Gillian Duchesne (Radiation Oncology)
 - Prof John Seymour(Haematology Oncology)

Patients will be triaged and seen by a doctor in the appropriate speciality (eg breast) with either option
If there are no named specialists on the referral (i.e. dear doctor) Peter Mac will be obligated to request a further referral, fulfilling these MBS requirements, directly from you.

A definitive list of consultants by speciality is on the Peter Mac website together with further details concerning the referral process. There is also a referral template that is downloadable to Medical Director that will make this process much easier and streamlined.

Your patient may be internally referred to another department (eg radiation oncology). In this case your patient will be asked to return to you, within 3 months, for an indefinite or 12 month referral.

In order for your patient to receive an appointment in a timely manner please fax all referrals to New Patient Registrations on **9656 3743**. If you have any questions or concerns please contact the Referral Management Team on 9656 1335.



DID YOU KNOW???

- The incidence of treated end stage kidney disease is increasing, with diabetes as the main cause.



*Our office will be closed from 5pm Thursday, 22nd December, 2011
and we will reopen at
9am Monday, 9th January, 2012.
'Merry Christmas'*