

Tuesday 3 November 2010 - Issue 18-10/11

UPCOMING EVENTS

NOVEMBER

Wednesday 10

Practice Staff Network
Meeting,
East Charlton Hotel,
Charlton 7:00pm

Wednesday 24

Mind the Gap – A sexual
health and diversity
workshop,
Comfort Resort,
Moama 7:00pm

GP Workforce Shortage
Meeting,
Barham Koondrook
Hospital,
Barham 7:30pm

*If you would like further
details on any of these
events, please do not
hesitate to contact
Helen Cramer on
5481 1300 or email
hrcramer@mpdgp.com.au*

NEW MBS ITEMS AVAILABLE FOR MIDWIVES AND NURSE PRACTITIONERS

The following Midwives and Nurse Practitioner services have been included onto the MBS with effect from 1 November 2010.

- **Midwifery Services - Items 82100-82140** - From 1 November 2010, Medicare benefits will be payable for antenatal, intra-partum and postnatal services (provided in the 6 weeks post delivery), by eligible privately practicing midwives working in collaboration with a medical practitioner. These services are covered by items 82100-82140. Participating midwives will also be able to request certain pathology and diagnostic imaging services for their patients and refer patients to obstetricians and paediatricians, as the clinical need arises.

- **Nurse Practitioner Services - Items 82200-82215** - From 1 November 2010, Medicare benefits will be payable under items 82200 - 82215 for services provided by eligible privately practicing nurse practitioners working in collaboration with a medical practitioner. These items are time tiered and take into account the complexity of the patient's condition, enabling nurse practitioners to provide a broad range of services within their scope of practice. Participating nurse practitioners will also be able to request certain pathology and diagnostic imaging services for their patients and refer patients to specialists and consultant physicians, as the clinical need arises.

For further details please see

[http://www.health.gov.au/internet/mbsonline/publishing.nsf/Content/News-20101103-Midwives Nurse Practitioners](http://www.health.gov.au/internet/mbsonline/publishing.nsf/Content/News-20101103-Midwives+Nurse+Practitioners).

PAPSCREEN LAUNCHES CAMPAIGN TO INFORM CALD WOMEN ABOUT PAP TESTS

PapScreen Victoria has launched 'Every woman, every 2 years', a campaign which informs women from nine culturally and linguistically diverse communities about Pap tests. The campaign comprises translated radio and newspaper adverts in Chinese, Hindi, Vietnamese, Arabic, Turkish and Macedonian. Victorian GPs speaking these languages have also been sent a translated poster for their waiting room.

Please take this opportunity to display the posters and discuss Pap tests with women from these communities. Free resources about Pap tests in many languages are available to order from www.papscreen.org.au - again please take this opportunity to order some for your clinic!

eHEALTH PIP

In response to several recent queries from practices regarding eHealth PIP requirements here is a refresher.

To be eligible for this incentive, practices must:

- Have a secure messaging capability, which is provided by an eligible supplier.
- Have (or have applied for) a location or site Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) certificate for the practice and each practice branch.
- Make sure each practitioner from the practice has (or has applied for) an individual PKI certificate.
- Provide all GPs at the practice with access to current editions of a range of key electronic clinical resources as detailed in PIP eHealth Incentive Guidelines