



## Respecting Patients Choices

### What is advance care planning?

Advance care planning is a series of steps you can take to help you make **Plans** for your medical **Care** in **Advance**.

Advance care planning aims to keep you involved in your medical decisions, both now and in the future, whether you are healthy or have an illness. Advance care planning is especially important when you become so unwell that you can no longer speak for yourself, because, having created a plan in advance, your doctors and family can understand how you would like to be cared for.

### Respecting Patient Choices® for Professionals

With funding from the National Institute of Clinical Studies, Respecting Patient Choices® was first introduced as a pilot program at the Austin Hospital, in Melbourne, during 2002-03.

The success of the pilot prompted the Victorian and Federal Government's (Department of Human Services and Department of Health and Ageing respectively) to support the programs introduction to other health services in Victoria and interstate.

The RPC Program provides a quality-assured system of discussing, recording and documenting a patient's preferences for their future healthcare, in preparation for a time when they might not be able to competently contribute to their end-of-life decisions. It is frequently (but not always) about end-of-life medical treatment.

The guiding principle of the RPC Program is:

*"If your choices for future healthcare are known, they can be respected".*

Training in the RPC Program enables doctors, nurses and allied health workers to discuss advance care planning helpfully and sensitively with patients and their families.

## Australian Point of Care Practitioner's Network

The Australian Point of Care Practitioner's Network (APPN) provides online training, certification and professional development for all Point of Care Testing (PoCT) operators. Visit the website at [www.appn.net.au](http://www.appn.net.au) and register (free), to gain access to useful resources such as: information on selection of an analyser; clinical and technical resources on anticoagulation INR, diabetes and lipids which includes on-line training videos, clinical presentations, competency tests and webinars. Modules endorsed by RACGP and RCNA for CPD are found on the web. This program is funded by DoHA.



## Advanced Paediatric Life Support

**December 2-4 at the Novotel Resort in the Barossa Valley.**

An Advanced Paediatric Life Support (APLS) course has been scheduled for December 2-4 at the Novotel resort in the Barossa. APLS is an internationally recognised and accredited course in assessing and managing acute paediatric emergencies. It is a 3 day course comprising a mix of lectures, tutorials, workshops, skill stations and scenario teaching. There is an assessment process and successful candidates will receive a certificate which is valid for 3 years. Candidate numbers are limited to 24 and the course is open to medical practitioners, nursing staff and SAAS paramedics. Further information on the course itself can be obtained from [www.apls.org.au](http://www.apls.org.au) and people should register on line through this website.

## Free DVD's from Rural Health Education Foundation

From time to time the Rural Health Education Foundation is generously funded to provide limited resources free of charge (order now for delivery in August 2011) to bona fide **Australian** health professionals (one copy or set per individual or organisation). Currently available programs (available NOW) include:

1114 *Feeling the Heat: Managing Menopause* For more information <http://www.rhef.com.au/> (order now for delivery in October 2011) If you have any queries about ordering any of the programs

1112 *The Patient's Choice: Quality at the End of Life* above please email: [support@rhef.com.au](mailto:support@rhef.com.au) (available NOW)

- LCDGP CPD Events
- Palliative Care Equipment Program 2011 - 2012
- Health For All Through Planning - 23rd November 2011
- Update from Centrelink
- Parenting Teenagers Workshop
- Arthritis SA
- Cancer Pain Assessment & Management
- Youth Friendly Doctor Program
- Respecting Patients Choices
- Australian Point of Care Practitioner's Network
- Advanced Paediatric Life Support
- Free DVD's from Rural Health Education Foundation

## LCDGP CPD Events

We have had many "NO Shows" for our CPD events recently. Please note that when you Register for an event we cater for you and therefore have to pay for your meal when you don't attend. This is very frustrating for both the Division, Sponsors and Speakers. It is also frustrating when you fail to Register and then Attend as we haven't catered for you. Please remember these factors in future when registering for events. We understand that things come up at the last minute but we would prefer to hear from you on the day then not at all.

## Palliative Care Equipment Program 2011 - 2012

The Palliative Care Council South Australia (PCCSA) has undertaken to assist Palliative Care Australia and the Commonwealth Department of Health & Ageing to implement the Palliative Care Equipment Program.

The primary aim of this program is to significantly increase community access to new equipment which can be loaned to the patient and carer.

Grants will be made on an application basis to appropriate palliative care and other relevant organisations for the purchase of palliative care aids and equipment to be loaned to palliative care patients and their families and carers for people facing death and who choose to remain at home whilst receiving palliative care or residents in other community settings including but not limited to residential aged care facilities. In South Australia \$261700 is available for the purchase of relevant equipment [items must be

listed on Schedule 3 of the GST and Medical aids and appliances Guide].

We welcome your application for funding to purchase equipment under these terms and conditions. Please contact the Palliative Care Council SA on 82914137 to obtain an application form.

Applications must be received no later than close of business on **Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2011**. You can fax, email or post your application to [pallcare@pallcare.asn.au](mailto:pallcare@pallcare.asn.au) Fax 8291 4268. Postal: Equipment Program 2011, Palliative Care Council South Australia, 202 Greenhill Rd, EASTWOOD SA 5063.

If you require further information contact the office 8291 4137

## Health For All Through Planning - 23rd November 2011

**Health For All Through Planning** is about what South Australia is doing to create urban environments that promote the health and wellbeing of the population.

This one day, interactive forum will describe local, state and national directions, showcase partnerships and present practical case studies that integrate health and planning.

### Who Should Attend?

State and Local Government policy makers, public health administrators, academics, planning professionals, engineers, urban designers, consultants, social planners, elected

representatives, non-government agencies, community and industry groups, students, sustainability practitioners.

**Date** Wednesday 23 November 2011

**Location** The Sanctuary, Adelaide Zoo, Frome Road, Adelaide, SA

**Time** 9.00am – 5.00pm

**Cost** Free, but spaces limited

**To register** or receive a copy of the full program email [hpb@health.sa.gov.au](mailto:hpb@health.sa.gov.au)

**Registrations close** Friday 11 November 2011

Useful Websites:

Southern GP Training  
[www.southernngptraining.com.au](http://www.southernngptraining.com.au)

Sturt Fleurieu General Practice & Training  
[www.sfgpet.com.au](http://www.sfgpet.com.au)

RACGP  
[www.racgp.org.au](http://www.racgp.org.au)

ACRRM  
[www.acrrm.org.au](http://www.acrrm.org.au)

Rural Doctors Workforce Agency  
[www.ruraldoc.com.au](http://www.ruraldoc.com.au)

Nursing Info  
[www.apna.asn.au](http://www.apna.asn.au)  
[www.rcna.org.au](http://www.rcna.org.au)

## Update from Centrelink

Health Professionals Online Services (HPOS) is a single point of entry for online services for health professionals to do business with Medicare Australia and gives health professionals access to a range of government services. This service has been utilised to also allow eligible health professionals the ability to electronically access, complete and transmit medical reports for customers applying for or receiving disability payments.

The Medical Report - Disability Support Pension (SA434) is an online form THPs can access, complete and submit to Centrelink using the Health Professionals Onlines Services (HPOS) network provided by Medicare Australia.

The HPOS system provides automatic verification that the report has been completed by an eligible health professional.

For customers in remote regions, a community nurse may complete the paper versions of the SA012 or SA012R. They may complete the SA434 if they have access to the HPOS.

The SA434 has an online help facility to assist health professionals with completing the form.

The SA434 is transferred from the HPOS system to Centrelink via a secure channel and automatically linked to the customer's record using the Centrelink Reference Number (CRN) and other identifying information. If the form has not submitted successfully, the medical practitioner will be alerted and advised of actions required to re-submit report.

If the customer does not have a record or the automatic linking process is not possible, the SA434 reverts to the relevant national queue for priority manual processing.

The date the health professional submits the form is regarded as equivalent to the 'date doctor signed' in the eMIFE.

The SA434 is only available as an electronic version however THPs may choose to print the completed form for their own records and provide a copy to customers.

The HPOS system has been available for THP's since July, 2011 and as of September, 2011 Centrelink Medical Certificates SU415 can also be submitted through the tool.

## Parenting Teenagers Workshop

### Does your teenage push your button?

- Be able to build a positive relationship with your teenager
- Become more confident in handling challenges
- Be able to identify behavior that needs your attention and what to let go
- Learn how to engage your teenager in important conversation
- Find a balance between boundaries and freedom

Venue: AC Care, White Avenue, Mount Gambier  
 Dates: Wednesday 9th and 16th November 2011  
 Time: 5:30pm to 8:30pm, Pizza Provided

For more information or to register to attend this workshop, call the Family Relationship Centre on 8721 3500



## Arthritis SA

One in four South Australians is now living with Arthritis and thirty per cent are unaware of the type of Arthritis they're suffering from, according to new research released today by Arthritis SA. This figure is higher than the national average of 1 in 5.

The research has highlighted the need for bodies like Arthritis SA, health professionals, government and the community to work collaboratively to ensure arthritis sufferers receive adequate treatment, advice and support.

To find out about the range of self management courses, exercise classes, training and professional advice provided by Arthritis SA to those living with arthritis and to health practitioners who support them, please visit their website [www.arthritis.org.au](http://www.arthritis.org.au).



## Cancer pain assessment and management

### What need is there for an Australian guideline and implementation strategy for cancer pain?

Pain in people with cancer has been identified as under-treated and a priority area for improvement by both the National Institute of Clinical Studies (NICS) and Cancer Institute NSW. Research shows that evidence-based guidelines can improve pain-related outcomes. But while a number of guidelines exist, the 2010 National Pain Summit found that none have been widely adopted for use in Australia. Substantial modification will be needed to adapt international guidelines to the Australian healthcare system. Moreover, a strategy will be needed to guide implementation across settings and disciplines.

### How will the guideline and strategy be developed?

Systematic reviews of qualitative and quantitative literatures are underway to identify areas of strength and weakness in the evidence base. Planned activities include: 1) a survey of current practice regarding assessment/management of cancer pain and use of guidelines; 2) consensus conference(s) aimed at establishing the scope and content of an Australian guideline and

implementation strategy; 3) a modified Delphi technique aimed at refining specific content; 4) garnering of feedback on iterative drafts; 5) piloting of the guideline and strategy to assess feasibility and acceptability; 6) evaluation of the final guideline and strategy via a randomized controlled trial.

### Who is developing the strategy?

The project is being led by the Chair of the 2010 Pain Summit's Cancer Pain and Palliative Care Working Group, Dr Melanie Lovell, with infrastructure support from ImPaCCT and funding from HammondCare.

### Who can participate?

Australian health professionals of all relevant disciplines are invited to participate in one or more of the activities above. Participation by professionals with a broad range of experience is essential to ensure the implementation strategy will be useful across service settings and geographic locations.

### How can I find out more information?

For more information, please contact ImPaCCT's Program Coordinator, Dr Tim Luckett, on (02)9514 4861 or email [t.luckett@unsw.edu.au](mailto:t.luckett@unsw.edu.au)

## Youth Friendly Doctor Program

AMA(SA) would like to invite all medical practitioners to participate in the Youth Friendly Doctor Program.

The Youth Friendly Doctor Program is a training program consisting of one full day workshop covering two core modules, to improve the understanding of adolescent development and up to date knowledge of specific youth health issues.

Ethics and the Law in Young People  
 The Psycho-Social Well-Being of Young People  
 RACGP: Approved for a total of 40 Points (category 1) by the RACGP QI&CPD Program  
 ACRRM: Approved by ACRRM for 7 PDP Core Points

RDWA: This workshop meets the RDWA Rural GP CPD subsidy guidelines

Saturday 10th March — AMA(SA) North Adelaide

Saturday 31 March — Berri

Thursday 17th May — AMA(SA) North Adelaide

All doctors who complete this training course will be awarded a certificate of confirmation as an AMA(SA) Youth Friendly Doctor and receive a free resource kit to promote their practice as an AMA(SA) Youth Friendly Doctor practice. Doctors will also qualify to register online within the AMA(SA) YFDP website as a Youth Friendly Doctor.

For more information about the Youth Friendly Doctor Program & to REGISTER visit our website: [www.youthfriendlydoctor.org.au](http://www.youthfriendlydoctor.org.au)

Workshop Dates:  
 Saturday 11th February — Gawler  
 Saturday 18th February — Victor Harbor

