



Wednesday, 9 December 2009

Notice of Closure - Barwon Division of General Practice

The Barwon Division will be closed from the 21 December 2009 and reopen on 4 January 2010.

Measles - Compliment on immunisation coverage from HNEH

HNE health service have conducted an incident review following the third confirmed case of measles in the HNE area in the last couple of years. The three cases had over 100 close contacts each and there were no secondary cases, HNE health have attributed this fact to the high immunisation coverage provided by GPs and Immunisation services.

New MBS item for GPs who have not completed Mental Health Skills Training

As of 1 January 2010, a new Medicare item (2702) will be introduced for GPs who have not completed accredited Mental Health Skills Training, with a schedule fee of \$125.95 for developing a Mental Health Treatment Plan.

GPs who have completed Mental Health Skills Training accredited by the General Practice Mental Health Standards Collaboration (GPMHSC) will continue to be able to access item 2710, with a current schedule fee of \$160.45 for developing a Mental Health Treatment Plan. (*see attached flyer*)

Education: The Division will be coordinating the following Workshop in early 2010
Young Minds: Treating Depression and Anxiety in Young People: new accredited training program from beyondblue. This training package is also available online at www.ebmcbt.com
beyondblue and the Australian General Practice Network (AGPN) have developed an accredited-training package designed to help GPs, practice nurses and allied health professionals detect and treat mental health problems in young people aged 12 to 24.

Young Minds is a GPMHSC accredited Mental Health Skills Training package and approved and endorsed by: the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (6 hour Active Learning Module, completion earns 40 CPD points); the Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine (completion earns 6 ACRRM PDP); the Australian Association of Social Workers (2 points per learning hour); and, the Royal College of Nursing Australia (attracting 6 Continuing Nurse Education points).

National Perinatal Depression Initiative

Patients diagnosed with antenatal or postnatal depression are able to access the Barwon Division's Mental Health services program (ATAPS/Mental Health Services in Rural and Remote Areas (MHSRRA)). It enables the provision of routine and universal screening for depression for women during the perinatal period by a range of health care professionals using the Edinburgh Depression Scale (EDS). *Clinician's downloadable (EDS) is attached.* The perinatal period is defined as pregnancy and the first year after child birth.

- To access the Division's Mental Health Services (ATAPS/MHSRRA), patient must have a referral from a GP in the Barwon Division catchment area and a GP Mental Health Treatment Plan (MBS Item 2710)
- Patients do not pay any fee or gap for services