

Division-based Responses to Emergency Situations and Public Health Alerts

Chair: Dr John Meaney
Facilitator: Ms Kris Honey

Sunday 15 May 2005
10.00 am – 1.00 pm

Arrow on Swanston
10th Floor, 488 Swanston Street, Carlton 3053

Purpose: Whilst some Victorian Divisions have established plans to deal with emergency situations locally, there is no agreement about how the DHS could communicate with the general practice workforce and/or mobilise general practice, or about the roles of divisions in the event of an state wide emergency,. The purpose of this event is to provide a forum for Chairs of Victorian Divisions to discuss these issues with key emergency and disaster planning representatives of the DHS, with the aim of coming to an agreement about an appropriate state wide strategy.

9.45am **Registration**
Coffee and tea available

10.00am **Welcome**
Dr John Meaney – *Chair, GPDV*

10.05am **Overview of Relevant Issues**
Bill Newton – *CEO, GPDV*

ACT Division's Emergency Response Plan: Before and After the 2003 Bushfires

Richard Bialkowski, *CEO, ACT Division of General Practice.*

The ACT Division has been invited because they had a plan in place before the 2003 ACT bushfires, and have been able to refine their plan on the lessons they and ACT Health learnt.

DHS Planning for Emergency Situations: Where are we up to?

Dudley McArdle – *Director, Emergency Management, Department of Human Services*

Dealing with Pandemic Outbreak of Disease Locally – Communicating with GPs

Dr Robert Hall – *Chief Health Officer (Victoria) and Director, Public Health, Department of Human Services*

11:25am **Morning Tea**

11.45am **Small Group Work: What is the best way forward for Victoria?**
Facilitated by Ms Kris Honey.

Issues to be tackled will be identified by participants. They could include communication protocols, the desired role of divisions in a state wide plan, GP preparedness, after-hours considerations, and assessments of 'urgency'.

12.45pm **Hot Topic Discussion**

1.00pm **Close, followed by lunch**