

# GPDV – Nurses in General Practice Workshop

## National Steering Committee for Nursing in General Practice

### *Update of Current Projects*

#### 1. Business Case Studies Project undertaken by ADGP

ADGP has received Commonwealth funding to undertake this project to develop and disseminate a series of business case models to assist general practices in their assessment of the benefits and implications of employing a practice nurse.

An information kit will be developed for Divisions to utilise with GPs and practices when discussing the employment of a nurse, or the roles that nurses can perform in general practice.

The kit will contain the following information:

- An explanatory letter describing the package
- Four Business Case Models which will include a description of the roles and functions of practice nurses and an analysis of the financial models for the practice, including standardised income and cost structures and variations to this model created by introducing a nurse.
- Case studies of actual practices to inform the economic models provided.
- Legal/liability/indemnity issues.
- Industrial issues.
- Implementation checklist.
- Education/training.
- Consumer perceptions.

#### 2. Consumer Perceptions on Nursing and Nurses in General Practice

The Commonwealth DoHA has recently released the final report, ***Consumer Perceptions on Nursing and Nurses in General Practice*** (Nov 2002), prepared by the Centre for Research into Nursing and Health Care, Division of Health Sciences, University of South Australia for the National Steering Committee on Nursing in General Practice and the Department of Health and Ageing.

A copy of the report has been distributed to all Divisions. Further copies can be obtained from the DoHA website:

<http://www.health.gov.au/hsdd/gp/nursing/index.htm>

#### 3. Mentoring Project

The aim of this project is to develop effective mentoring systems for practice nurses. In undertaking the project the project committee are conducting a number of focus groups with Divisions, GPs and Practice Nurses, to receive input on possible models of support for nurses working in general practice.

ADGP has developed and is hosting the APNA website. The site is available at: [www.adgp.com.au](http://www.adgp.com.au) and follow the link to APNA. This site provides the latest news and updates for practice nursing, upcoming educational events and a chat room facility.

#### 4. Education and Training

The RCNA and RACGP are currently undertaking a six month study to identify the educational requirements for the current and future roles of nurses in general practice. This study will also make recommendation regarding the coordination and accreditation of education and training programs for practice nurses.

Following on from this work, core competencies will be developed specifically for nurses working in general practice.

#### 5. Demonstration Divisions Project

The DoHA has recently announced the successful tenderers for the Demonstration Divisions Project they are:

- Monash
- Hunter Urban
- Southern NSW
- Townsville
- Adelaide Southern
- North Tas
- Canning
- Fremantle

The aim of the tender process was to identify some of the “Demonstration Divisions” of General Practice, which had established models of working with practice nurses. The “Demonstration Divisions” will develop ways of sharing with other divisions the “lessons learned” through case studies of their models and interactive regional workshops.

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