AHCRA Workshop 'Improving the Australian Health Care Agreements'
The Australian Health Care Reform Alliance is running a Workshop on
'Improving the Australian Health Care Agreements'. The Workshop is
being held on Tuesday, 18 March 2008 at the National Museum in
Canberra. To find out more or to register follow the link on the front

A new rural health agenda?
The Rudd Government is giving high priority to the health sector, and
Minister Roxon has met four times already with her State and Territory
colleagues. It is encouraging also to know that the election
commitments on health are being rolled out, with recent announcements
of the members of the National Health and Hospitals Reform Commission
(which has started to meet), the new dental programs and confirmation
of the establishment of the position of Commonwealth Chief Nursing and
Midwifery Officer. On the rural front there is to be a doubling of the
John Flynn Scholarships, augmentation of the Medical Specialist
Outreach Assistance Program and the Specialist Obstetrician Locum
Scheme, and establishment of a rural allied health placement
scholarship scheme.

People in non-metropolitan areas will also be keen to hear more about
the revised Rural Medical Infrastructure Fund and about plans for
national maternity services planning to ensure a range of birthing
options and support services are available in rural and regional areas.
Both of these will work in parallel with whatever new workforce
incentives are to be provided - with recommendations expected to the Minister soon following the rural health workforce audit.

In its submission to that workforce audit, the Alliance distinguished the demand for health professionals from the demand for health care, and argued that the emphasis should be on the latter. In a time of serious and growing global shortages of professionals, a balanced outcome in Australia between demand and supply will require changes on several fronts. Where workforce numbers are concerned, the nation needs to ensure that a fair 30 percent of the graduates from health science courses (not just medicine) are enthused about and trained for practice in rural and remote areas. The number of new medical graduates will rise from about 1,350 to 2,500 a year in the next five years. It is to be hoped that other health professions soon have increases in undergraduate numbers of a similar order of magnitude. For this to happen, major new investment will be required. Meanwhile, the Alliance is seeking immediate action on a higher education contribution scheme (HECS) reimbursement program for nursing, allied health and dentistry/oral hygiene; a national rural and remote undergraduate placement scheme for health professionals; and an improved and more uniform patients' assisted transport scheme.

Australian Journal of Rural Health
There is now a freely-available virtual issue of the AJRH on Indigenous health. For access, go to http://www.blackwell-synergy.com/loi/ajr

Election of new friends Advisory Committee friends of the Alliance will soon be calling for nominations from people for the friends Advisory Committee and Chair of friends. Nominations will be open to all 2008 financial members, who will also be invited to vote for state representatives. If you have not rejoined for 2008 there is a membership form on the friends page of our website at http://www.ruralhealth.org.au. Details of the election process and a nomination form will be provided with the next edition of Partyline which will be out by the of March.

Australian Journal of Rural Health
The April issue of the AJRH wills soon be available online to subscribers. It will be a special thematic issue on public health. The AJRH is published by Blackwell Wiley and information can be accessed at www.blackwell-synergy.com/loi/ajr

Partyline No 31, March 2008
The next edition of Partyline will be out soon. Contributions can be sent to the Editor at partyline@ruralhealth.org.au. Electronic versions of Partyline are available in the 'Publications' section of our website at http://nrha.ruralhealth.org.au/publications/?IntContId=57&IntCatId=6

Fortnightly eforum / Monthly Alliance E-news To subscribe or contribute to the fortnightly eforum go to http://www.ruralhealth.org.au - see link in the bottom left hand corner. eforum is a moderated newsletter open to anyone and is in addition to this monthly Alliance E-news. It is not limited to information from the Alliance but contains a range of information such as media releases, news and conference information from whomever has contributed to it. It is sent only to those people who have specifically subscribed to it from the front page of our website - it is not sent to our in-house mailing list. There is an
archive of past eforums on the Alliance website at http://nrha.ruralhealth.org.au/eforumarchive/?IntCatId=19. This monthly E-news contains information from the Alliance and is sent to everyone on our mailing list.

10th National Rural Health Conference
The 10th National Rural Health Conference will be held in Cairns on 17-20 May 2009. The first formal announcement will be the Call for Abstracts in June 2008. Keep an eye on our website for up-to-date information about the Conference - http://www.ruralhealth.org.au

Can you use some hard copy Alliance publications?
The Alliance has available a range of publications, including Annual Reports, Position Papers, Conference Proceedings and newsletters. They are an excellent resource for students, academics and researchers. If you would like multiple copies of any of our publications please contact Ann Short on ann@ruralhealth.org.au and she will post them to you. We also have a limited number of our 2008 calendar left - first in, best (ad)dressed! Please keep in touch and we look forward to working with you again in 2008.

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ALLIANCE WELCOMES A CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICER

The appointment of a Commonwealth Chief Nursing and Midwifery Officer will increase the strength of the advice to the Australian Government on nursing and midwifery matters at a time of much anticipated change in the health sector, according to the National Rural Health Alliance. It will also help maintain the balance between the health professions in a way that reflects the reality of health care - particularly in rural and remote areas. The full text of the NRHA statement is at http://nrha.ruralhealth.org.au/cms/uploads/mediareleases/chief%20nurse%202011%20march.pdf and is reproduced below.

AT LAST: A CHIEF NURSE FOR AUSTRALIA

The Australian Nursing Federation warmly welcomed the Rudd Government's announcement they were establishing the position of Chief Nursing and Midwifery Officer. The establishment of the position of Chief Nursing and Midwifery Officer was a Rudd Government pre-election commitment and another one they have now delivered on. Nursing plays a role in so many of the Government's programs such as: health, aged care, education, mental health, Indigenous health, rural health and the MBS and PBS; it is vital they have a representative at a senior level in government to provide nursing input and link all the programs together. The full text of the ANF statement is at http://www.anf.org.au/02_anf_news_media/news_press_080309.html and the Government's announcement is at http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/mr-yr08-nr-nr033.htm

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AHCRA WORKSHOP - IMPROVING THE AUSTRALIAN HEALTH CARE AGREEMENTS

1.30pm-5.30pm, Tuesday 18 March 2008
Peninsula Room, National Museum of Australia, Canberra

Both the Prime Minister and Minister Roxon have indicated that they would like to see the new Australian Health Care Agreements (AHCAs) extend beyond being just funding agreements for the public hospitals. This workshop is the opportunity for AHCLA to refine and promote its views of what the revised Australian Health Care Agreements should look like in order to progress AHCLA's agreed principles for the health sector.

Register online now at
https://www.nrha.net.au/ei/getdemo.ei?id=72&s=_2S80WQQU4
Download Workshop Program at
Download Workshop Hardcopy Registration Form at

The program for the afternoon will provide plenty of discussion and question time. There will be four presentations: one from a Commonwealth perspective, one from a State perspective, one from the Australian Healthcare and Hospitals Association's perspective, and one from the new chairperson of AHCLA (soon to be elected).

For information on the Australian Health Care Reform Alliance visit
http://www.healthreform.org.au

+++++++RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS: A JOINT APPROACH++++++

LIVE satellite TV broadcast (also available to view online via video web-stream and download audio pod-cast) Produced by the Rural Health Education Foundation Tuesday 18th March 2008 at 8.00pm AEDT Repeated Wednesday 19th March 2008 12:30pm AEDT) Funded by the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing Program

Treatment and management of patients with rheumatoid arthritis requires a combined approach from a range of health professionals, through the different stages of the condition. This can be challenging in areas where resources are limited. This program explores current prevention strategies, diagnostic methods, management options and the contribution of lifestyle factors to onset and ongoing management of the disease. Case studies are used to illustrate key issues.

Panel of Speakers Chair: Dr Norman Swan, Presenter of the Health Report on ABC Radio National. Associate Professor Lyn March, President, Australian Rheumatology Association and practising Rheumatologist, Royal North Shore Hospital, Sydney. Dr Geraldine Moses, Pharmacist, Mater Health Services, Brisbane QLD and Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (Queensland Branch) Councillor. Dr Cathy Marshall, General Practitioner, Bathurst, NSW and Senior Lecturer in Rural General Practice, Faculty of Medicine, University of Sydney. Ms Jean McQuade, Registered Nurse & Director of Health, Education and Research Programs, Arthritis Western Australia, Perth.

Further program information, resources and detailed broadcast times can be found by clicking http://www.rhef.com.au/programs/805/805.html
From: Gregor Macfie <Gregor@acoss.org.au>
Subject: Promoting health within the ACOSS National Conference on Social Inclusion

The agenda for social inclusion being advanced by the Rudd government and at the upcoming 2020 summit will provide an important opportunity to consider the role of health and health care in ensuring everyone is included in their communities and in society.

ACOSS is holding its National Annual Conference in April, which will provide an opportunity for people interested in health and health care to contribute to that social inclusion agenda. Participants will be asked to share their insights into who is being excluded from good health and health care in Australia and to help develop ideas on how to achieve optimum health for the whole population.

The ACOSS National Conference, Taking Steps for a Fair Go for All - Social Inclusion Policies and Processes, will be held in Melbourne at the Sebel Albert Park on Wednesday 9th and Thursday 10th April 2008.

The Conference will examine the roles of the community services, health and welfare sectors, governments, business and philanthropic organisations in the emerging social inclusion agenda of Australia. The Conference will also look at the meaning and scope of social inclusion and poverty.

The second day of the Conference will be a series of concurrent practical workshops in a number of specific areas, including Housing, Homelessness, Welfare/Participation, Education, Health, Disability, Early Childhood Development, Youth Transitions, Safe and Healthy Communities, and Indigenous Communities.

One of the outcomes of the workshops will be to identify medium and longer term targets in each specific area which would, if met, reduce social exclusion across a number of specific areas. The workshops will also identify who is excluded in each of these areas, the effects of this exclusion and the broad strategies which would help achieve social inclusion targets.

People can register for both days of the conference or for either one of the two days. Please email conference@acoss.org.au for further information.

Gregor Macfie
ACOSS
tel: 02 9310 6200
fax: 02 9310 4822
web: http://www.acoss.org.au

From: Catherine Geraghty <Catherine.Geraghty@flinders.edu.au>
LECTURER/SENIOR LECTURER IN REMOTE HEALTH PRACTICE ALICE SPRINGS

This position is a partnership between the Council of Remote Area Nurses of and the Centre for Remote Health (CRH). The position of Lecturer, Remote Health Practice is responsible for the delivery, continued development and assessment of the advanced nursing components of the Remote Health Practice program to post graduate nursing students. The position will also provide academic leadership and resources to CRANA to ensure the quality and improvement of CRANA programs and improve capacity for research and analysis of remote health issues. This position is available immediately for 3 years on a full-time or part-time basis.

Applications must address the specified selection criteria. Detailed position information and essential information for intending applicants are available via the Jobs@Flinders website http://www.flinders.edu.au/employment. If you are unable to access this information please contact Ms Jeanne Tahini, telephone (08) 8951 4700 or email jeanne.tahini@flinders.edu.au. Applications must be lodged with the Executive Officer, Centre for Remote Health, PO Box 4066, Alice Springs NT, 0871 or Email jeanne.tahini@flinders.edu.au by 5pm Monday 31 March 2008.

The Australian Journal of Rural Health is a multidisciplinary journal, which aims to facilitate the formation of interdisciplinary networks to build and advance rural practice for all health professionals.

Get published in the Australian Journal of Rural Health! The Journal welcomes short reports and letters to the editor as well as review articles, original research articles and clinical perspectives. For useful tips on submitting your manuscript, read the FREE editorial, How to get published in the Australian Journal of Rural Health. Manuscripts can be submitted online at http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/ajrh Manuscript Central or posted to: AJRH Editorial Office
Australian Journal of Rural Health
550 Swanston Street
Carlton VIC 3053

April 2008 issue now available. Contents include:
- Rural and remote public health in Australia: An introduction to the special issue Rural and remote public health in Australia: Building on our strengths
- Review Article - Addressing the health disadvantage of rural populations: How does epidemiological evidence inform rural health policies and research?
- Implementing a chronic disease strategy in two remote Indigenous Australian settings: A multi-method pilot evaluation
- Lukumbat marawana: A changing pattern of drug use by youth in a remote Aboriginal community
- Mobilising a rural community to lose weight: Impact evaluation of the WellingTonne Challenge
- Rural obesity, healthy weight and perceptions of risk: Struggles, strategies and motivation for change
- Physical activity behaviours of adults in the Greater Green Triangle region of rural Australia
- An evaluation of a community
pharmacy-based rural asthma management service Evaluation of iodine levels in the Riverina population Short Report - Feeling safe in one's neighbourhood: Variation by location among older Australians Grazing - Health workforce crisis: How to achieve a work-life balance From the Journal Associates - NRF: Mental health support for rural practitioners

Further information at http://www.blackwell-synergy.com/loi/ajr

+CLOSING THE ABORIGINAL HEALTH GAP GOES WELL BEYOND HOSPITALS
+Moves announced by the Australian Health Ministers' Council to look at health system reform that goes well beyond just hospitals are very welcome says Dr Mick Adams, chair of National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO). The full text of the NACCHO statement is at http://www.naccho.org.au/Files/Documents/Health_Reform_Welcome_Media_Release_3_3_08.pdf

+NEW CHAIR AND EXECUTIVE FOR PEAK HEALTH REFORM GROUP
+Fiona Armstrong, Federal Professional Officer with the Australian Nursing Federation, has this week been elected Chairperson of the Australian Health Care Reform Alliance.

+Ms Armstrong has been acting in the position since Kerren Clark stood down from the position in late 2007.

+The Australian Health Care Reform Alliance (AHCRA) has 45 members representing the consumers and providers of health services. For five years AHCRA has been the peak body promoting health reform in Australia to allow the system to better emphasise primary health care, citizens' engagement and universal care funded through the tax system.

+Ms Armstrong Chairs AHCRA's new Executive, made up of four representatives from health consumer organisations, four from health provider bodies, and one from rural and remote health interests. The other successful candidates in the recent election for the new AHCRA Executive are from the Health Issues Centre (Tony McBride), Choice (Michael Johnston), the ACT Consumer Health Forum (Russell McGowan) and the Australian Council of Social Service (Gregor Macfie); Sydney University (Michael Kidd), the Doctors' Reform Society (Tim Woodruff) and the Public Health Association of Australia (Michael Moore); and the National Rural Health Alliance (Gordon Gregory). Two others are to be co-opted to the Executive.

+Fiona Armstrong's first duty as Chairperson of AHCRA will be to help lead discussion at its Workshop on Improving the Australian Health Care Agreements, to be held at the National Museum of Australia in Canberra on Tuesday 18 March, starting at 1:30.
Join friends of the Alliance in 2007. By joining friends you will receive the updated CD 'Rural and Remote Health Papers 1991-2007', a 2007 friends certificate, and regular issues of PARTYline newsletter. Membership of friends would also give you the opportunity to be involved more closely with the Alliance's information dissemination and policy work. You will become part of a group of people who contribute to and support the work of the National Rural Health Alliance.

PARTYline Newsletter

The Alliance's newsletter, PARTYline, is a means of exchanging information between those with an interest in rural health, including friends of the Alliance, health consumers, health professionals, students and policy makers. Contributors report on their personal rural experiences, on programs with which they have been involved, provide information on new initiatives and resources, and it is a vehicle for opinions on rural health issues and events.

PARTYline has a print circulation around Australia of 13,000 and is also available on-line below. PARTYline readily accepts contributions from readers - articles (up to 500 words) and photographs can be sent to partyline@ruralhealth.org.au

The electronic version of Partyline is also available in the 'Publications' section of our website at http://nrha.ruralhealth.org.au/publications/?IntContId=57&IntCatId=6

If you don't receive Partyline but would like to, send your contact details to nrha@ruralhealth.org.au and let us know if you'd prefer a hard copy in the mail or email notification of its availability on the webpage.

LIFELINE INFORMATION SERVICE - 1300 13 11 14 Your Rural Mental Health Information Service Lifeline's Information Service is a rural mental health information service. Information provided includes: referral to services and web sites, printed material and a range of self help resources. The self-help resources focus on practical steps to help promote mental health in a range of areas. For information and copies of resources call or visit http://www.lifeline.org.au/infoservice and further information is available at infoservice@lifeline.org.au and http://www.lifeline.org.au

NURSES LACK CONFIDENCE IN USE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY STUDY SHOWS

Research in the latest issue of the Australian Journal of Advanced Nursing (AJAN) has raised concerns about the lack of confidence of nurses in the use of information technology. The research, which was funded by the Department of Health and Ageing, surveyed a random sample 10,000 nurse members of the Australian Nursing Federation. For most of Australia's nurses, experience and confidence in use of information technology is confined to basic computer and common applications. In
order to use information technology to support health delivery, action to increase access for nurses and remove barriers to use is urgently required. Further information on the study is at http://www.anf.org.au/it_project/

BUSH CRISIS LINE - 1800 805 391
Bush Crisis Line is a twenty-four hour confidential telephone support and debriefing service for multi-disciplinary remote and rural health practitioners and their families. It is staffed by qualified psychologists with remote and cross-cultural experience, is toll free and available from anywhere in Australia. For more information http://www.bushcrisisline.org.au

GOVT AND HEALTH BODIES PARTNER IN GROUND-BREAKING SUMMIT TO CLOSE THE GAP IN INDIGENOUS HEALTH

More than 100 representatives from peak Indigenous and mainstream health bodies, non-government organisations and the reconciliation movement will partner with the Australian Government in convening a National Indigenous Health Equality Summit from 18 - 20 March in Canberra. The summit will be led by the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner, Tom Calma. Further information is available at http://www.hreoc.gov.au/about/media/media_releases/2008/26_08.html

RURAL HEALTH ON THE ABC
(From ABC Health Updates, http://abcmail.net.au/t/73489/614869/1366/0/)

FARM SMELLS CAN CAUSE REAL STINK (Science Online: 12/03/2008) http://abcmail.net.au/t/106713/614869/2240/0/

SCABIES RIFE IN NT INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES (The World Today: 07/03/2008) http://abcmail.net.au/t/106713/614869/2255/0/

QLD GOVT ADMITS NURSE RAPE CASE POORLY HANDLED (The World Today: 05/03/2008) http://abcmail.net.au/t/101736/614869/2158/0/

BOOZE BANS PUSH UP NT COMMUNITY DRUG USE (PM: 04/03/2008) http://abcmail.net.au/t/101736/614869/2160/0/

QUEENSLAND FLOODING SPARKS DISEASE CONCERNS (AM: 01/03/2008) http://abcmail.net.au/t/101736/614869/2166/0/

ABS 3303.0 - Causes of Death, Australia, 2006

There were 133,739 deaths registered in Australia in 2006, approximately 3,000 (2.3%) more than the number registered in 2005 (130,714). The standardised death rate in 2006 (6.0 deaths per 1,000 standard population) was the lowest on record, reflecting a steady
A decline in the standardised death rate over the past decade from 7.6 deaths per 1,000 in 1997.

In 2006, the leading underlying cause of death for all Australians was Ischaemic heart diseases, which include angina, blocked arteries of the heart and heart attacks. Ischaemic heart diseases accounted for 18% of all male deaths, and 17% of all female deaths registered in 2006.

Cerebrovascular diseases, which include haemorrhages, strokes, Infarctions and blocked arteries of the brain has remained as the second leading underlying cause of death over the last 10 years. The proportion of all underlying deaths due to this cause has declined from 9.6% in 1997 to 8.6% in 2006.

Lung cancer remains the third leading underlying cause of death since 1997. Deaths due to Lung cancer have increased in number from 6,588 in 1997 to 7,348 registered in 2006. These deaths accounted for 5.5% of all registered deaths (up from 5.1%).


CURRENT ISSUE OF eMJA, 3 March 2008

From the Editor's Desk: Medical schools - blue chip assets Medication errors in hospitals: what can be done? On the lookout: how to save the sight of Australians who have glaucoma Mars and Venus: does gender matter in ageing? Learning from error: identifying contributory causes of medication errors in an Australian hospital Accuracy of packaging of dose administration aids in regional aged care facilities in the Hunter area of New South Wales Lower than expected morbidity and mortality for an Australian Aboriginal population: 10-year follow-up in a decentralised community Management of assessments and diagnoses for children with autism spectrum disorders: the Western Australian model Outcomes for dialysis patients with end-stage renal failure admitted to an intensive care unit or high dependency unit Guidelines for the management of paracetamol poisoning in Australia and New Zealand - explanation and elaboration 2007 addendum to the National Heart Foundation of Australia/Cardiac Society of Australia and New Zealand Guidelines for the management of acute coronary syndromes 2006 Probiotics: sorting the evidence from the myths Prolonged absorption and delayed peak paracetamol concentration following poisoning with extended-release formulation Primary open-angle glaucoma: the importance of family history and role of intraocular pressure

RURAL HEALTH ON THE WEB
(FROM Google Alert at [http://www.googlealert.com](http://www.googlealert.com))

Rural Health Care - USAC
This is the basic introduction page to the two audiences served by the rural health care program. [http://www.rhc.universalservice.org/]

CRANA DOES NOT SUPPORT SINGLE NURSE POSTS

The Council of Remote Area Nurses of Australia once again raises the issue of the safety of nurses working in single posts in the most remote locations in Australia. This follows the report of an assault on one such nurse working alone in a single nurse post in the remote Torres Strait. The full text of the CRANA statement will be on its website at [http://www.crana.org.au/n.php]


You are invited to register for the World Congress of Health Professions, to be hosted by the Metropolitan Allied Health Council Inc and the Allied Health Alliance of WA at the Perth Convention Centre in Perth, March 26th to 29th 2008.

The title of the congress is "The Future Now: Challenges and Opportunities in Health". The congress philosophy is to open possibilities for health professionals from around the globe, inclusive of all cultures and disciplines, through the dissemination of information, the development of networks and forums, and the evolution of cultural and professional exchange.

The Congress has five themes:
Global Challenges and World Health
Innovations in Service Delivery
Workforce and Training Developments
Demands and Opportunities
The Impact of New Technology on Health Care

Who should attend: Allied Health, Diagnostic and Scientific Professionals, Medical Practitioners, Nurses, Health Educators & Researchers, Clinical Managers, Health Executives, Community Based Clinicians, Population Health Professionals, Policy Makers, Private Health Industry Providers and Health Promotion Practitioners.

This is a great opportunity for us to share our achievements and learn from others at home and abroad during this exciting period of reform and significant change.

To register for the Congress please visit [http://www.worldhealthcongress.org/info-registration.php]. Queries about registration should be directed to Events WA on 9248 5788.

CRIAH Aboriginal Health Research Conference 2008 Strong Foundations...Strong Future
The second CRIAH Aboriginal Health Research Conference will be held on April 29 and 30 at Dockside at Cockle Bay Wharf, Sydney. Information at http://www.saxinstitute.org.au/newsevents/EventItem.cfm?objid=754

Enquiries:
The Sax Institute
PO Box 123
BROADWAY NSW 2007
Ph (02) 9514 5950
aboriginal.health@saxinstitute.org.au

10th INTERNATIONAL PAEDIATRIC AND CHILD HEALTH NURSING CONFERENCE

The 10th International Paediatric and Child Health Nursing Conference is to be held at the Holiday Inn Esplanade and Darwin Entertainment Centre, Northern Territory, from Wednesday, 30 April to Friday, 2 May 2008. The conference is being hosted by the Australian Confederation of Paediatric and Child Health Nurses. The conference is expected to attract between 200 and 400 delegates from across Australia and abroad.

Through the implementation of the theme "Crossing barriers", this conference aims to illustrate that barriers can and must be crossed to improve health outcomes for children and young people. The conference aims are: to advance paediatric and child health nursing’s contribution to health care and facilitate the dissemination of evidence highlighting effective nursing interventions to arise the profile of the benefits of interdisciplinary collaboration to identify future directions for paediatric and child health nursing to provide a forum that stimulates debate and collegiality.

For more information please visit the conference website at http://www.ipchnconference.com.au or by contacting the conference secretariat via email at info@ipchnconference.com.au or by telephone +61 7 3858 5503.

HEALTH PROFESSIONALS CONFERENCE, PORT FAIRY

Port Fairy is a historic seaside village located on the southwest coast of Victoria, known for music festivals and fine restaurants. With many pleasant cafes, art galleries and day spas, it is a charming and relaxing destination.

The conference is focused on mental health services and professional development workshops. It is an opportunity to meet mental health academics, practitioners, and colleagues working in rural health.

If you would like to conduct a half-day workshop at this conference, please contact Professor Prasuna Reddy, phone 03 5563 3501 or email director.hsr@greaterhealth.org

Registration details for the conference are on the website: http://www.greaterhealth.org/education-training/
From: Anita Cromb <mailto:Anita.Cromb@heartfoundation.org.au>
Subject: Challenges in Cardiology VIII conference 9 & 10 May 2008

Challenges in cardiology VIII 'Prevention and management of cardiovascular disease'
9 - 10 May 2008

A joint conference of the Heart Foundation, Cardiac Society of Australia and New Zealand (CSANZ), and the Queensland Cardiac Rehabilitation Association.

The 8th Challenges in Cardiology conference will be a significant date on the calendar in 2008. The one and a half day conference will provide an exciting and unique opportunity for health and medical professionals, nurses and students, medical researchers, industry and government to receive the latest information in various formats, including practical sessions, on the challenges and solutions to the prevention, assessment, and management of risks associated with heart disease, both acutely and for secondary prevention.

Venue: Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital Education Centre, Herston, Queensland 4029

Topics will include:
Absolute risk - tools and implementation, updated hypertension guidelines, management of CVD (including biomedical and psychosocial risk factors), secondary prevention, Quality Use of Medicines, various workshops, and a panel discussion: CVD - are we losing the battle?

Day registration (Friday or Saturday) $77 (earlybird $55 before 11 April 2008) Friday and Saturday (inc. cocktail function) $132 (earlybird $99 before 11 April 2008) Cocktail function $33 (earlybird $22 before 11 April 2008)

The Heart Foundation has applied to the RACGP QA&CPD Program for Category 1 points (40 points) for this Activity.

For more information log onto our website http://www.heartfoundation.org.au and click on Queensland in the map of Australia.


You are invited to attend the third national conference for the Australian College for Child and Family Protection Practitioners in Adelaide.
The conference theme "Ethical Responsiveness" reflects the broad contexts of Australian child and family practice. Workers in the child and family welfare sectors are generally ethical and responsive. This conference celebrates the work done by both statutory and non-government agencies alike in supporting vulnerable children, young people and their families. As debates continue within the child and family welfare system about the effectiveness of strategies to support vulnerable children, the professions are instead struggling to reconcile the need for appropriate supportive relationships with clients against ever increasing compliance bureaucracy. This conference supports the presentation and testing of practice frameworks and is interested in hearing about approaches which make a real difference to people's lives. Conversely presentations on practice issues are also welcomed to improve the evidence base of the profession.

The Conference secretariat is based at the Mackay Offices of Relate Human Services, PO Box 1401, Mackay 4740, Phone 07-49575400 Fax 07-49575488
Email: accfpp@bigpond.net.au

From: Rogan McMahon-Hogan <rogan.mcmahon-hogan@deafnessforum.org.au>
Subject: National Deafness Summit 08

The Deafness Forum of Australia is pleased to announce that registrations are now open for the 2008 National Deafness Sector Summit which will be hosted in Canberra 24-25 May 2008. These biennial summits are a fantastic opportunity for disability professionals, carers and the Deaf and hearing impaired community to learn about new developments in the sector, a chance to discuss issues, network and catch up with old friends. The previous summit held in Perth in 2006 was very successful, and we look forward to more success in 2008. Further information is available through the Deafness Forum Website, http://www.deafnessforum.org.au or via email info@deafnessforum.org.au

2008 GENERAL PRACTICE AND PRIMARY HEALTH CARE RESEARCH CONFERENCE - HEALTH FOR ALL?

4 -6 June 2008, Hobart

The aim of this Conference is to address and reflect on what we have (and have not) done towards achieving the goal of Health for All. Keynote speakers will provide and challenge you with their take on: 1) Health for All? (with researchers, practitioners and policy makers); and 2) how to have a greater impact on improving primary health care.

Further information regarding the Conference, program, workshop details and the abstract submission process are all available on

From: Roger Strasser <Roger.Strasser@NorMed.ca>
Subject: ICEMEN Conference: 9-14 June 2008

The Northern Ontario School of Medicine (NOSM) and Flinders University, Australia are pleased to invite you to participate in the International Conference: Community Engaged Medical Education in the North (ICEMEN). ICEMEN is a five-day conference on medical education based in the community with two days focussed on educational program development and delivery, one day for on-site learning in NOSM communities, and two days on teaching and learning clinical skills.

These latter two days will focus specifically on rural clinical skills updates and train the trainer sessions with procedural workshops from the Occasional Series in collaboration with the Society Rural Physicians of Canada.

Now is your opportunity to contribute as a presenter at ICEMEN. Abstract submissions are welcome (see attached) prior to the deadline of 1 March 2008. Further information is available through the NOSM website http://www.normed.ca

INAUGURAL RURAL AND REMOTE HEALTH SCIENTIFIC SYMPOSIUM
6-8 July 2008, Brisbane

POPULATION HEALTH CONGRESS 2008
A Global World - Practical action for health and Well-being

The Population Health Congress 2008 will be held on July 6-9 in the Brisbane Convention and exhibition Centre. Regular updates on Congress 2008 will be available at http://www.populationhealthcongress.org.au - log on to register your interest.

The Population Health Congress 2008 is for everyone working in Population Health in Australia and New Zealand - abstracts will be accepted over the full range of public health, health promotion and epidemiological topics.

Conference Coordinators
PO Box 139
Calwe 11 ACT 2905
Ph (02) 6292 9000
congress2008@confco.com.au

Continence Awareness Week 3 to 9 August 2008 Website http://www.continence.org.au

9th INTERNATIONAL MENTAL HEALTH CONFERENCE
14-16 August 2008, Holiday Inn, Gold Coast.

2008 SARRAH CONFERENCE


10th NATIONAL RURAL HEALTH CONFERENCE
The 10th National Rural Health Conference will be held in Cairns in May 2009. Keep an eye on our website at [http://nrha.ruralhealth.org.au/conferences/docs/10thNRHC/10thNRHC.htm](http://nrha.ruralhealth.org.au/conferences/docs/10thNRHC/10thNRHC.htm) for up-to-date information about the Conference. The first announcement will be the Call for Abstracts in early 2008.

CONTRIBUTION AND SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION AND DISCLAIMER

The NRHA e-forum is published fortnightly. Contributions are sought on any topic relevant to rural health concerns. Please send contributions to the moderator at grovesc@winshop.com.au (do not "reply" to this email - send contributions to grovesc@winshop.com.au). Contributions received by the Friday of publication will be included in the e-forum.

The NRHA e-forum is edited by a third party moderator, Jim Groves. As such, the Alliance does not control postings and the contents do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Alliance. Nor do postings necessarily reflect the view of Jim Groves or any organisation he is associated with. Jim Groves can be contacted at grovesc@winshop.com.au

Please forward a copy to any colleague you think may be interested.

Media Release
11 March 2008
Alliance welcomes a Chief Nursing and Midwifery Officer
The appointment of a Commonwealth Chief Nursing and Midwifery Officer will increase the strength of the advice to the Australian Government on nursing and midwifery matters at a time of much anticipated change in the health sector. It will also help maintain the balance between the health professions in a way that reflects the reality of health care – particularly in rural and remote areas.

The Alliance is pleased with the Government's decision on this matter. Nurses and midwives play a key role in health and aged care services and are the largest health professional group in all areas. Their distribution is thankfully not as skewed towards the major cities as is the case for general practitioners, medical specialists and dentists, although there are still significant nursing and midwifery shortages in the health workforce overall.

The appointment recognizes the increasing importance of the Commonwealth in relation to policies and programs that have an impact directly on nursing and midwifery. The Australian Government is the leading player in increasing the number of nurses and midwives available to the health and aged care sectors, for instance through providing extra tertiary places and re-entry programs.

If new policy frameworks are agreed between the Commonwealth and the States, and anticipated improvements made in the funding of the health system, it will be essential to have high level advice on the implications for nurses and midwives. For example, such changes as these will impact on scope of practice and job satisfaction.

It is very good that the nursing and midwifery professions will now have a stronger voice in the Department in Canberra - as well as on Australia's behalf in international forums.