

GPPARTNERS' BULLETIN

October 2012
Volume 1, Issue 3

Annual General Meeting and Dinner 2012

The AGM and Dinner was held on 11 October 2012 and was attended by 45 members and interested parties.

During the AGM, the Chair, Dr Glynn Kelly gave members an update on the company's activities over the past 12 months and reiterated that GPpartners was committed to:

- ◆ The quality, capacity and sustainability of general practice and thus ultimately quality health care for our patients and our community
- ◆ Working with other organisations for the benefit of general practice at Local, State and National Levels
- ◆ Improving communication, co-operation and resource allocation in the primary health care sector and between general practice and secondary and tertiary health sectors

Looking forward to the next 12 months, Dr Kelly advised members that:

- ◆ An MOU with Metro North Brisbane Medicare Local was being developed
- ◆ We continue to work with the three remaining former Divisions in Brisbane and the two Brisbane Medicare Locals; perhaps as a Primary Care Alliance with AMA and RACGP for Brisbane
- ◆ Working to retain AGPN as the 3rd voice that the AMA and the RACGP have publicly stated is needed
- ◆ GPpartners will remain a professional provider of education for GP's
- ◆ LAG's will continue and we are also working with Wesley Hospital, North West Private Hospital and Montserrat to develop Special Interest Dinners and/or workshops
- ◆ GPpartners will remain a committed advocate for general practice and general practitioners and will continue working with other organisations for the common good



Our thanks go to Novartis for sponsoring the evening. Over dinner, guests heard from Dr Grant Cracknell on Managing Co-morbidities in the Treatment of Type 2 Diabetes and from Dr Farzad Bashirzadeh on Best Practice in Treatment of COPD and Interpretation of Spirometry Charts for COPD and Asthma Patients.

A very successful evening was rounded off with an after dinner presentation by Mr Terry O'Gorman on Doctors and the Criminal Law: Issues from the Recent High Court DR Patel Decision.

GPpartners Board for 2012/13

Your Board will consist of five general practitioners:

Dr Henry Bryan (re-elected)
Dr Jayne Ingham
Dr Glynn Kelly (re-elected)

And we welcome two new members:



Dr Abhi Varshney



Dr Anita Sharma

After Hours Care Funding Changes.

Are you confused by the changes in the After Hours Funding arrangements?

Practice Owners have you recently received Tender Documents from the Metro North Brisbane Medicare Local?

GPpartners invite you to a meeting on the Monday the 5th of November at 6.30pm to brainstorm the various issues around the after hours services. Venue TBA

RSVP to contact@gppartners.com.au

Date Claimers

Wednesday, 7 November 2012

“Chronic Pain Management”

Speakers: Dr Frank Thomas
Pain Medicine Physician and
Specialist Anaesthetist

Dr Ralph McConaghy
Specialist in Palliative Medicine

Sponsor:



Venue: Stamford Plaza Brisbane from 6.15pm.

RSVP by fax to: 07 3054 0486



Thursday, 22 November 2012

“Why allergies on the increase?”

Talk and Dinner with Prof Pete Smith

Sponsor

**Allergy
Medical**

Venue: Allergy Medical, 39 Commercial Road
Newstead from 6.30pm

RSVP to: AniaUdinga@AllergyMedicalGroup.com.au
or call 0467 251 400

Date Claimers (cont'd)

Monday, 26 November 2012

“Gynaecological and Fertility for the General Practitioner”

Sponsors:



Venue: North Lakes Day Hospital from 6pm.

RSVP by fax to: 07 3054 0486

Not yet a member of GPpartners?

Membership Application forms are available for download from our website
www.gppartners.com.au
or email your request for a membership form to:

-
contact@gppartners.com.au

Membership remains free until 30.06.13!

If you would like to change/update your email address for future correspondence from GPpartners, please email:
chris.nicoll@gppartners.com.au
(Membership and Administration Manager).

New Guidelines for Fracture Management in Children

The Royal Children’s Hospital in Melbourne has a very good website with guidelines for managing most Paediatric conditions as well as fact sheets that be printed out for parents. They have just released new guidelines about fracture management in children.

To access the Childhood Fracture Management Project resources go to:
www.rch.org.au/clinicalguide/fractures .



can

GPs with a special interest.

From time to time GPpartners is asked if we know of a GP with a special interest in a particular field. This may be from other GPs wanting to refer their patients to someone with a particular expertise. For example I refer patients in the local nursing home to a GP who does excisions of skin lesions at the nursing home which saves the patient a trip to my practice or to the specialist. There is a GP in our practice who has specialised in psychoanalysis . In the Metro North area there are many GPs who have special interests or skills such as inserting IUDs after doing the Family Planning course, doing vasectomies, performing acupuncture or specialise in musculoskeletal problems or occupational medicine. The list goes on. At present this information is not readily available and is more about who you know.

The Medicare Local runs forums and at times requests GP representation. If GPpartners is aware of GPs who are willing to attend these forums because of their particular area of interest we would be able to ask you if you were interested and available to attend and nominate you.

GPpartners is planning to have a register of GPs with special interests which will be more formally established when we send out the renewal notices next year. However in the meantime would you email us at contact@gppartners.com.au with your area of expertise and if you have done extra training and where that was completed? Would you please also let us know if the information can be shared with other GPs and whether you would accept referrals? And whether you are interested in representing your area of interest at forums?

GPpartners also runs the Local Area Groups for education and information. Often it is useful for a GP to present on their speciality as it is relevant to GPs.

I certainly find it useful to be able to refer to another GP who has some skills that I don't have. I also insert IUDs and am happy to do that for patients who then go back to their "normal" GP. I just worry sometimes about not being a "normal GP"!

Jayne Ingham

(Board Member GPpartners and GP)