

Office of the Chief Nurse Communiqué

March 2011

Please circulate me to wards/areas where nurses and midwives work in your organisation!

Message from Chief Nurse

The response to the recent Paid Study Leave Block grant round was considerable and I would like to thank all the health services who despite the tight timelines put in applications and in particular those that formed consortia.

This round was primarily targeting those Enrolled nurses who have not undertaken a medication administration course. By offering it as block grants we are anticipating you will be able to negotiate better local arrangements with training providers.

We are currently reviewing the Paid Study Leave Grant outcomes and processes as part of our periodic program review and the experience from the block grant round will be invaluable in helping to ensure the program meets the needs of health services.

NMBA registration renewal period - Now Open!

Nursing and midwifery registration is due for renewal by **31 May 2011**. On-line registration renewal is now available. Nurses and midwives in Victoria recently renewed for less than 12 months. This was to align all health practitioners across Australia to common renewal dates.

All nurses and midwives are encouraged to renew on-line and early!

Weblink: <http://www.ahpra.gov.au>

Professional indemnity insurance for nurses and midwives

The NMBA is seeking feedback from all interested stakeholders on the PII requirements for nurses and midwives, including:

- Draft of professional indemnity insurance for midwives guideline
- Revision of professional indemnity insurance arrangements registration standard, and
- 'Quantum of cover' for professional indemnity insurance for midwives guideline

The closing date for submissions is **6 May 2011**.

Weblink: www.nursingmidwiferyboard.gov.au/News/Current-Consultations.aspx
Email submissions to nmba-consultations@ahpra.gov.au.

Aged Care Postgraduate scholarships

Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing is offering 130 scholarships nationally for Aged Care nurses. This offer includes postgraduate scholarships for Registered nurses (up to \$15,000 a year for two years) and assistance of up to \$6,000 for Enrolled nurses for re-entry courses, conferences and continuing education. Applications close on **27 April 2011**.

Contact: RCNA 1800 116 696
Weblink: www.rcna.org.au

NMBA twitter

The NMBA has launched a Twitter account to keep nurses and midwives in touch with the latest news including the **May 2011** registration renewal, changes to registration standards, consultations.

www.ahpra.gov.au/News/Nursing-and-Midwifery-Board-Joins-Twitter.aspx

Some recently released resources:

Preventing falls in older people

A Monash University and Aged Care Branch training package for health professionals is now available.

Contact: Margaret.Thomas@health.vic.gov.au

National Prescriber Service services for nurses

This site has specific resources and information on quality use of medicines for Nurse practitioners and medication management for Registered nurses in residential aged care.

Weblinks:
<http://qum4np.nps.org.au/> <http://agedcare.nps.org.au/home>

Safety and Quality Framework for Health Care

ASCQHC has launched the [Australian Safety and Quality Framework for Health Care - Getting Started Guides](#) for the healthcare team, policy makers, health service executives and board members and managers.

Weblink: <http://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/internet/safety/publishing.nsf/Content/NSQF>