

VicReN & Other Events

Welcome to October's issue of the VicReN e-bulletin in which we outline VicReN, University of Melbourne and wider research-related events.

VicReN Events:

- Meredith Temple-Smith and Melinda Soós will present a talk at the Australian Practice Nurses Association Conference on 18 November entitled "Getting Started in Research: Scared of Research and Feel it is Irrelevant to Your Daily Practice? Practice-Based Research Networks Can Help."
- Marie Pirota and Melinda Soós will present a seminar about VicReN at the NSW Primary Health Care Conference in November
- **RACGP Conference** Melinda Soós presented the research talk "Launching general practice research into the future: practice-based research networks" at the RACGP Annual Scientific Convention on 5 October. The event also proved a fine networking experience with links made other university-based PBRN.
- **PBRN Proposal for Funding** Following on the last Foundation Members meeting, Kate Johnston-Ata'ata has been recruited to work on developing the proposal to address "how practice-based research networks would strengthen Australia's capacity to deliver practice and policy relevant research" by outlining possible models and costings of PBRN. This will be submitted to the Health Minister Tony Abbott for consideration. We thank you for your contributions to the proposal.
- **VicReN Recruitment** To extend VicReN's Practice Committee and network, membership packs consisting of a signed letter, membership form and PCRU and VicReN brochures will be sent over the coming months. The first round of membership packs will be sent to the Rural Undergraduate Steering Committee with future rounds to be sent to undergraduate teaching practices and practices local to the university. If you know of practices you feel would be an asset to VicReN, please would you forward your recommendations to Melinda Soós.
- **PBRN – Essential to the health of the nation... or an obscure hobby?** The workshop held by Professor Jane Gunn and Professor Nick Zwar at the General Practice and Primary Health Care Research Conference held on 23 May 2007 has been collated and is now available via the link: <http://www.phcris.org.au/publications/infonet/2007/october/pbrn.php?promoid=114>

Research asks relevant questions and seeks to answer them within the parameters of scientific method

University of Melbourne Events

- **Seminar: DIPEX Depression Project, UK** Dr Damien Ridge, sociologist from the University of Westminster, England, will present a seminar entitled 'The DIPEX depression project on patient experiences in the UK: What were the key issues in recovery generally, and men in particular?' Monday 3rd Dec, 3:30-4:40pm @ Department of General Practice, 200 Berkeley St Carlton - Seminar Room, Ground Floor.

VicReN Research

Health Assessment in General Practice for Children and Young People Entering Out-of-Home Care in Victoria

Susan Webster, Divisions Consultant, is undertaking research for her Masters degree through the Department of General Practice, the University of Melbourne. She would like to conduct an hour-long tape recorded interview of 30 GPs about providing health assessments for children entering out-of-home care. If you are interested in participating, please contact Susan on (03) 9341 5203 or s.webster@pgrad.unimelb.edu.au