

Coronary Heart Disease E-Learning module for practice nurses.

Exciting new initiative!!

The Australian General Practice Network (AGPN), in a joint project with the Royal College of Nurses Australia (RCNA) has developed 7 E-Learning modules for practice nurses to support the Medicare Item 10997.

The modules include:

- Six chronic 'disease specific' modules – on arthritis, asthma, cancer, coronary heart disease, dementia and diabetes.
- A 'foundation module' which covers generic issues of chronic disease management, lifestyle factors and motivational interviewing techniques that go across all chronic diseases.



The Heart Foundation has worked with the AGPN to develop the coronary heart disease module to support ongoing management of this chronic disease within the general practice setting.

Coronary heart disease is the leading single cause of death with nearly 23,000 Australian lives lost to the disease in 2006 – that's around one Australian dying every 25 minutes.¹ It is easy to forget that coronary heart disease (CHD) is a chronic condition and requires ongoing management in order to prevent progression of the disease and further cardiac events. This involves a number of key factors, both clinical and practice management issues, which are presented in this module.

These key factors for ongoing management of CHD in general practice include:



- Heart Foundation resources and access to up-to-date guidelines
- CHD risk factor targets, goals and clinical information
- Patient support including useful patient referral pathways
- The systems and processes that support ongoing management of CHD including IT management and practice management issues
- Useful information on the use of relevant Medicare item numbers, other external resources of interest and a care plan template for evidence based CHD management

The modules are fun and interactive utilising quizzes, case studies and self assessment to support the learning process.

All of the modules will be accessible via the RCNA website:

<http://3lp.rcna.org.au/10997/>



And are available for **free** until **30 June 2010**.

The Heart Foundation encourages all practice nurses interested in improving the management of coronary heart disease in their practice to undertake the module. Undertaking the CHD and foundation E-Learning modules will improve their knowledge, skills and capacity to implement effective, systematic and evidence based care for this critical issue.

¹ Australian Bureau of Statistics. Causes of Death 2006 (3303.0). March 2008