



ELSEVIER

NEWS

GPIAG/IPCRG News

General Practice Airways Group UK RESPIRATORY PRIMARY CARE CONFERENCE 2005, 8–9 July 2005, Wychwood Park, Crewe, Cheshire

The GPIAG is delighted to announce a major Respiratory Primary Care Conference to be held at Wychwood Park Conference Centre, Crewe, Cheshire on the 8th and 9th July 2005.

The exciting programme features major symposia on asthma, allergy, and COPD, and will also include practical workshops and management sessions. The conference is aimed at all members of the primary healthcare team.

For full details of the programme and registration fees contact our secretariat on 01461 600639, email info@gpiag.org, or see the advertisement on the inside back cover of this journal.



General Practice Airways Group Learning from experience: the role of General Practitioners and others with a special interest in respiratory disease

RESOURCE PACK

Early in Spring 2005, the GPIAG will be sending a copy of a resource pack to your Primary Care Trust PEC Chair or Local Health Board Chief Executive.

This short booklet, and the resources included on the accompanying CD, can help PCOs to develop GPwSIs and other health professionals in many clinical areas, not only the important area of respiratory service development. In particular:

- Why review current services for long term conditions?
- How can local priorities be identified?
- What roles can GPwSIs and others fulfil in reconfigured services?
- How are GPwSIs and others with a special interest recruited?
- What training and accreditation do GPwSIs and others with a special interest require?
- What happens in practice?
- Case studies
- What resources are available to help?

The resource pack will also be available on <http://www.gpiag.org> and if you are on our email alert list you will be alerted when this appears.

If you want a personal copy, the GPIAG have some available at a discounted rate. To reserve your copy or for more information please contact the secretariat on +44 (0)1461 600639 or email your request to info@gpiag.org



International Primary Care Respiratory Group (IPCRG) Update

Website www.theipcr.org

Our website continues to attract more visitors and work is nearly complete, so we have **searchable current research and recent publications registers** for our members; to add any information, please contact your country representative — their details are on our website. Our Norwegian group, Lunger i Praksis already has its own pages, and our

Spanish group is working on theirs. We encourage you to engage in our discussion forum.

IPCRG Third World Conference, Oslo, Norway, 8–11 June 2006

Building on the tremendous success of Melbourne last year, the International Primary Care Respiratory Group's Third World Conference will be held in the Norwegian capital, Oslo, 8–11 June 2006. The conference venue is the prestigious Radisson SAS Plaza Hotel right in the centre of Oslo.

The Conference Organising Committee has chosen **Respiratory Disease in Primary Care – Quality of Care** as the theme for this leading international event.

The Conference Scientific Committee is developing a programme that will provide the opportunity for delegates to learn about a broad range of topics presented as plenary sessions, symposia and a variety of workshops. Each day will be themed and the main conference will be preceded by several post-graduate courses covering a range of topics within the respiratory field.

The conference will launch its **website** within a few weeks; look for news at the IPCRG web site: www.theipcr.org The **deadline for abstracts is 15 December 2005** – we intend to introduce an **online submission** process.

If you would like **more news** regarding the conference please contact Anders Ostrem (Organising committee) – andersostrem@c2i.net or Arnulf Langhammer (Scientific committee) – arnulf.langhammer@medisin.ntnu.no

Membership

We now have 33 member countries; 15 are Ordinary members with voting rights and the remainder are associate members. Signed up recently are: Afghanistan, Belgium, Brazil, Chile, India, Iran, Nigeria, Turkey, United Arab Emirates and the USA. We are delighted to announce that The European Federation of Allergy and Airways Diseases Patients' Associations (EFA) and the National Respiratory Training Centre (NRTC) have accepted our invitation to join as international associates.

To date, our 2005 associate corporate members are: Altana, Boehringer Ingelheim, GSK, Micromedical, Orion Diagnostica, Pfizer and Vitalograph. Our membership committee has set targets over the next few years to increase membership and to support some of our associate members to move to ordinary membership status.

British Lung Foundation

Last year the British Lung Foundation (BLF) received funding to set up Baby Breathe Easy (BBE) support groups around the UK. This is a two-year pilot project and will comprise nine groups linked to hospitals in London, Liverpool, Brighton, Stoke-on-Trent, Leeds, Exeter, Belfast, Glasgow and Cardiff.

In the same way that Breathe Easy (BE) groups work hard to raise public awareness of lung disease, BBE groups will aim to do the same but will focus on babies and young children. The prevalence of respiratory disease in children is greater than all other chronic illnesses combined. According to the 2001 census, there are 3.7 million 0-5 year olds in the UK and they visit their GP 1.5 million times per year with respiratory problems. This accounts for 34% of weekly GP visits.

Parents of children with delicate lungs may find that they experience feelings of isolation, helplessness, fear and frustration. In the support group parents can help each other by talking about how they cope.

Development of the groups has begun and each group will have a part-time Group Organiser who will set up and establish the group. The BLF will be working with local providers in the relevant areas to help spread the word about BBE, identify relevant families and offer support.

All of the groups will be launched in early 2005. If you would like more information, please call Lee Chilvers on 020 7688 5573 or email lee.chilvers@blf-uk.org.



**National Respiratory Training Centre
MSc in Respiratory Care
Flexible distance learning for leaders in their field of practice
A new three year specialist education programme for health professionals with a specialist interest in respiratory care.**

Year 1 Post Graduate Certificate qualification

Compulsory Module 1:

Advanced respiratory management focuses on advanced diagnostics, enhanced clinical practice and organisation and delivery of care

Choose one from the following three options:

- | | |
|----------|---|
| Option 1 | Understand and deliver: education to influence change |
| Option 2 | Psychosocial aspects of respiratory disease |
| Option 3 | Global perspectives |



Year 2 Post Graduate Diploma qualification

Compulsory Modules:

Advanced respiratory management

Research and evidence in practice

Choose one from the following three options:

- | | |
|----------|---|
| Option 1 | Understand and deliver: education to influence change |
| Option 4 | Non pharmacological management of respiratory disease |
| Option 5 | Management of end stage respiratory disease |

Year 3 Post graduate degree, MSc in Respiratory Care

Students undertake an individual project relevant to their area of interest. This will require submission of a portfolio of evidence or a literature review and research design. Successful completion results in the award of an MSc in Respiratory Care.

Subject to validation by the Open University Validation Service.

Regularly updated details can be found on our website: www.nrtc.org.uk

For further information, please contact Rosie Stone at the NRTC on 01926 838968 or email r.stone@nrtc.org.uk

Mechanisms/Management of Allergic Disease (II) – 40 credits

Dietetic Management of Allergic Disease – 20 credits

Skin Disease and its Management – 20 credits

Nasal Disease and its Management – 20 credits

Introduction to Respiratory Disease – 20 credits

Foundations in Research Methods in Health 1 - Using resources and understanding research methods – 20 credits

Foundations in Research Methods in Health 2 - Carrying out research in practice – 20 credits

Dissertation – 60 credits

The award at the end of the programme of study will be the degree of Master of Science. A candidate for the MSc may also be a candidate for the subsidiary award of a Postgraduate Diploma (120 credits) or a Postgraduate Certificate (60 credits).

For further information and an application form contact:

Dr. Jill A Warner Tel: 44 (0)2380 796941 email jaw4@soton.ac.uk

Mrs. Brenda Colwell Tel: 44 (0)2380 796379 email b.colwell@soton.ac.uk

Web address: http://www.som.soton.ac.uk/prospectus/postgrad/misc_allergy/default.asp

<http://www.soton.ac.uk/Postgraduate-Taught/MedicineHealthLifeSciences/Allergy>

MSc in Allergy, University of Southampton

Places are available for students on the module Mechanisms and Management of Allergic Disease (I), the basic core module of the above MSc course. The module comprises two blocks of two days teaching.

This programme aims to develop your interest in and knowledge and understanding of the mechanisms and management of allergic disease including the immunological basis, diagnostic testing, pharmaceutical preparations, management programmes and research techniques. The course is open to the wide range of people who require a basic understanding of allergic disease and who come into frequent contact with potential allergy sufferers e.g. doctors, nurses, midwives, health visitors, and school nurses. It is also suitable for specialist registrars and scientists who require a basic training in order to carry out research in allergy.

This module is part of a postgraduate programme that is normally suited to 2–5 years part-time study, leading to 180 credits at HE4. The modules offered are:

Mechanisms/Management of Allergic Disease (I) – 40 credits

Association of Respiratory Nurses

Change in Membership

The Association of Respiratory Nurse Specialists (ARNS) evolved in 1997 as a specialty-nursing forum for respiratory nurse specialists. It was set up to provide a supportive network, to promote specialty practice through education and professional development, and to act as a resource for generic nurses. It is the only group in the United Kingdom that caters specifically for respiratory nurse specialists and respiratory nurse consultants in primary and secondary care, and has an ever-growing number of active members, both national and international. The inclusion of primary care respiratory nurses to the membership of ARNS is new, and has been enthusiastically welcomed.

The introduction of the GP contract, the expected NSF for Chronic Disease Management, and the recent release of national guidelines for the management of both COPD and Asthma have highlighted the need to manage chronic disease

effectively. Healthcare providers recognise the expertise of RNS/Consultants, and their skills are being used in developing regional and national strategies for respiratory disease management.

ARNS Objectives

- To provide a supportive network for ARNS members to encourage information sharing, best practice and research collaboration.
- To develop opportunities for collaboration between primary and secondary care services and other agencies to facilitate a quality seamless service for patients with respiratory disease and their carers.
- To initiate and drive forward innovative projects influencing practice to improve patient care.

- To co-operate and collaborate with other multi-disciplinary respiratory specialist groups to influence improvements and developments in respiratory care.
- To participate in raising the standard of respiratory nursing and clinical effectiveness in conjunction with the relevant government policies.

We are extremely keen to hear from all respiratory nurse specialists who may be interested in becoming members.

For further information and membership forms contact;

www.ARNS.co.uk

email – ARNS@arns.co.uk

Telephone – 01189 369106

Available online at www.sciencedirect.com



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