

NEWS

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GPIAG News

Interested in influencing and delivering respiratory care beyond practice level in primary care?

Respiratory Leaders Training Workshop, 27th and 28th June 2008 Honiley Court Hotel and Conference Centre, Warwick (<http://www.Foliohotels.com/honileycourt>)

This two-day meeting has been especially designed to provide tools and skills to enable primary care clinicians and nurses with a special interest in respiratory disease to influence and develop specialist services within their primary care region.

Using a series of practical interactive workshops and presentations, delegates will act as providers and commissioners and learn how to develop a business case for commissioning services. Delegates will also learn about:

- The NHS landscape
- Influencing managers
- The key components of preparing a simple business case
- Steps required to making the changes in local healthcare communities
- Developing a practical business case.

Delegates must commit to completing a pre-course assessment form, an immediate post-course evaluation, and two further post-course evaluation forms at three months and one year. Places are limited and based on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information contact Gail Ryan at gail@gpiag.org.

Respiratory Disease in Primary Care: Coming of Age The General Practice Airways Group Annual National Primary Care Conference 12/13 September 2008, Kents Hill Park Conference Centre, Milton Keynes, UK

Don't miss out on attending our flagship conference which you can't afford to miss! Developed by our expert organising committee, the conference offers a superb opportunity for anyone working in primary care respiratory medicine.

Conference Programme – see our website for details of the full conference programme and other materials <http://www.gpiag.org/conferences/index.php>

Based on a **cradle to grave theme**, the conference will take you on a journey through respiratory disease from diagnosing asthma in infancy to palliative care in COPD. It will deal with common and less well-known respiratory diseases seen in primary care, and will feature case histories, keynote

presentations by leading experts in the field, a series of "How To..." practical workshops, and an Innovation Zone offering opportunities to learn how others are tackling the challenges of the new NHS environment in terms of managing respiratory disease. As usual, there will be opportunities for you to learn about new clinical and scientific developments.

Conference Registration - see <http://www.gpiag.org/conferences/index.php>. GPIAG members can register from as little as £225 (including conference attendance, meals and refreshments, the conference dinner, accommodation on 12th September 2007 and VAT). Non-members can register from as little as £280, which includes free membership of the GPIAG for the remainder of the calendar year.

Play Your Part in Our National Conference - Scientific and Clinical Poster Submissions for the Conference

We are inviting submission of the following posters for display in the **Innovation Zone** at the conference. The GPIAG is willing to offer support to those without previous experience of submitting posters:

1. Sharing Best Practice

If you have been involved in a project using examples of best practice in primary care, why not submit a poster for the conference Innovation Zone? Here you'll be able to share your experiences and discuss the outcomes of your work with colleagues. Examples could include the results of audits and other projects you have completed to improve outcomes for your patients in primary care.

2. Spread the Word

Have you presented a poster at a national/international conference recently? Is your work related to respiratory medicine? If yes, why not submit your poster to be displayed in the Innovation Zone at the GPIAG Conference.

3. Blow your Trumpet...Scientific Abstracts

If you are undertaking a research or audit project on any aspect of primary care respiratory medicine, why not submit your poster to the Innovation Zone. Here you'll be able to share clinical experiences and outcomes with other healthcare professionals who all share your interest in respiratory medicine. Subject areas include rhinitis and allergy, asthma, COPD, smoking cessation and respiratory infection.

Submission is easy and undertaken online by submitting a 200-word poster outline or abstract. To submit your poster please go to <http://www.gpiag.org/abstracts/enter1.php>

IPCRG News

IPCRG Conference 28-31 May 2008, Seville, Spain

Remember Melbourne? That was when we voted to host the 2008 conference in Seville and now, finally it's here! We have had over 150 abstracts submitted; and over 30 requests for bursaries from people from all over the world. We believe we have a really strong programme and anticipate significant discussion and debate. For those unable to make it to Seville, we will be making available highlights on our website. We extend our thanks to the Organising Committee, Scientific Committee and all our sponsors, without whom this would not have been possible. A special thanks to Miguel Roman, the mastermind of the conference.

Research

In Seville we will take forward our proposal to build the research capability in one research-aspiring country through the intervention of an IPCRG research e-faculty. Please let us know, via an email to Siân Williams (sianandhahn@blueyonder.co.uk) if your country group would like to be considered and we will send you further information. Please note; this requires a response from a group, not an individual.

External affairs

For the first time, the IPCRG actively supported World Asthma Day and its messages about improving asthma control. Materials are available on our website. As a reminder, we have a number of resources on asthma control: Can asthma control be improved by understanding the patient's perspective? <http://www.biomedcentral.com/1471-2466/7/8>. We are also developing follow-on resources from this article and also The IPCRG Users' Guide to currently available asthma control tools downloadable from http://www.theipcr.org/resources/resources_asthma.php.

Smoking cessation

We are pleased with the package of IPCRG smoking cessation resources now available at <http://www.theipcr.org/smoking/index.php>. These include practical guidance, 'no

smoking' posters for waiting rooms, and a slide set. We have also submitted a manuscript to the *PCRJ* for publication. We also contributed to the General Practitioners and the Economics of Smoking Cessation meeting funded by the European Commission in Barcelona in March.

Education

We had nearly 100 participants in the IPCRG Academy meeting in Lisbon in February. The next asthma course is 10/11 October. All COPD courses for 2008 are now full, but a waiting list is available and we can set up new dates if there is sufficient interest. Please contact Samantha Louw at Sam.Knowles@abdn.ac.uk for more information.

Speakers Bureau

Ron Tomlins represented the IPCRG at the inaugural meeting of the Bangladesh Lung Foundation in Dhaka in February. Also in attendance were Osman Yusuf and a team from Sri Lanka, and discussions are proceeding about the formation of a GP Asia/Pacific Respiratory Group. We are also delighted to support the EFA meeting in Sofia at the end of May through the attendance of Anders Østrem, the CardioPneumo meeting in Bari in May where Daryl Freeman will speak, and the Wonca meeting in Istanbul in October – faculty to be confirmed.

Finally, Niels Chavannes and Osman Yusuf, our two GARD representatives and I will be meeting GARD and will report on news at the conference.

New Board members

The IPCRG is delighted to announce two new members of the Board, Osman Yusuf and Miguel Roman, who will join John Haughney (President), Ron Tomlins (Treasurer), Anders Østrem (Immediate Past President) as the Board of the IPCRG, following changes to our Memorandum and Articles.

Siân Williams
Executive Officer

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Available online at <http://www.thepcrj.org>