

## NEWS

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### GPIAG News

#### Chest Infections Audit

The GPIAG has developed an audit of patients diagnosed in primary care with chest infection.

##### *Why do it – what's in it for you?*

The management of chest infections in primary care varies considerably. This is an opportunity to compare your management of patients with chest infections with your colleagues. You can then produce a printed report as evidence of participation for appraisal purposes and for action planning within your practice. For more information visit [http://www.guideline-audit.com/chest\\_infection\\_audit/](http://www.guideline-audit.com/chest_infection_audit/)

##### *What's special about this Audit?*

Once you enter each patient's data, you will be able to see your results with immediate online feedback, in graphic format, and then compare with colleagues.

##### *Want to participate?*

Visit [http://www.guideline-audit.com/chest\\_infection\\_audit/instructions.php](http://www.guideline-audit.com/chest_infection_audit/instructions.php) for instructions on how to participate.

#### New GPIAG Materials and Resources

##### *New asthma management materials*

The British Thoracic Society and Scottish Intercollegiate Guidelines Network have recently launched revisions to their national guidance for the management of asthma at the end of June. Revisions to our associated resources are also now available.

*Six New Opinion Sheets – all available free of charge from <http://www.gpiag.org/pubs/opinionsheets.php>*

- Pulse Oximetry
- Diagnosis of Asthma in Adults
- Asthma – Special Situations
- High Risk Asthma
- Sleep apnoea
- Managing Cough in Primary Care

##### *New Nurse Resources*

Visit our website to download the available nurse resources.

- Telephone consultations protocol
- Asthma Assessment and review protocol, checklist and tools document
- PGD (Patient Group Direction) on the administration of prednisolone.

##### *Coming soon...*

A range of materials developed to support the forthcoming launch of the COPD National Strategy including a First Steps Guide to assess how ready you are.

#### Last chance to book to attend the GPIAG Conference

#### Transforming respiratory care – Your chance to make a difference

#### 25th-26th September 2009, Warwick University

The GPIAG have announced their final programme for the above conference. We are delighted to confirm a major plenary session on infections and the lung which includes a major presentation by Dr Mark Woodhead on SWINE FLU offering you practical advice on how to manage the current pandemic.

All of our sessions focus on the key topics that matter to you; defining and ensuring quality care in COPD and asthma, an allergy testing debate, practical lessons we can learn from the major COPD studies, healthcare professional education as an intervention to improve patient outcomes, and the launch of the new GPIAG spirometry standards, will all be major plenaries at the conference.

Speakers include Professor Peter Calverley, Professor Stephen Durham, Dr David Halpin, Dr Hilary Pinnock, Dr John Haughney, June Roberts and Ruth McArthur to name just a few. Parallel sessions include information on current and new guidelines (including the newly-published oxygen guidelines) together with a series of presentations on recent work undertaken by the major academic primary care-based research units for respiratory medicine.

To download the conference brochure, view the programme and for further information on how to register, please visit our website at <http://www.gpiag.org/conferences/index.php>

#### **SPECIAL OFFER FOR NURSE AND GP TO ATTEND FROM THE SAME PRACTICE**

The GPIAG are delighted to offer a specially-reduced registration package for a nurse and GP to attend from the same practice. Visit our website for more information - <http://www.gpiag.org/conferences/registration.php>

#### Respiratory Leaders Programme

Are you interested in influencing/delivering respiratory care beyond practice level in primary care? Why not consider applying to participate in one or more of our Respiratory Leader Programme Activities...

#### Respiratory champions and PwSI Update

27th-28th November 2009, Cranage Hall, Manchester

The programme has been designed to provide an update on the changing NHS and an opportunity to debate key clinical and service

delivery issues in respiratory medicine. The two days will provide a forum to exchange ideas. Visit our website for more information – [http://www.gpiag.org/conferences/resp\\_leads\\_2009.php](http://www.gpiag.org/conferences/resp_leads_2009.php)

Each programme will be delivered by expert speakers using a series of interactive workshops and presentations. A limited number of places are available FREE OF CHARGE for GPIAG members. Attendance for non-GPIAG members is £225 which includes attendance, dinner and one night's accommodation, plus full membership of the GPIAG for the remainder of 2009.

Attendees will be invited to join the GPIAG respiratory leaders network, an e-mail group aimed at providing ongoing group support.

## IPCRG News

### Research

The IPCRG held its inaugural Scientific Conference at Stansted on 4th-5th June this year. The purpose was to increase the opportunities for the international primary care respiratory research community to present its findings and ideas, and to receive peer feedback by introducing a science-only meeting for the interim years between biennial world conferences. Delegates from 12 countries attended the meeting and 29 abstracts were submitted.

**See selected abstracts from the Stansted meeting published as an online extension to this issue of the *PCRJ*, pages A1 to A4**

The meeting met its brief. We successfully trialled a broadening of the discussions to include research work, research ideas and quality improvement initiatives. We will continue this approach for our biennial meeting in Toronto 2-5 June 2010.

The IPCRG's UK Respiratory Research Foundation TAKL Study: An Investigation of the Safety and Efficacy of Oral AKL1 in Patients Diagnosed with Obstructive Lung Disease conducted by the University of East Anglia has randomised its first patients.

We are in the last stages of the process to review our Research Needs Statements in asthma, COPD, allergic rhinitis, tobacco dependence and respiratory infections. We aim to publish these as a series in this journal, and hope that they will be used by primary care respiratory researchers as a framework for their future research. If you wish to be involved in their development, please contact the Business Manager, Sam Louw.

The Free Respiratory Evaluation and Smoke-exposure reduction by primary Health cAre Integrated gRoups (FRESH AIR) study which is investigating the effectiveness of case-finding and indoor air pollution-reduction strategies in resource-limited primary care settings continues in Vietnam, and the next e-faculty visit will take place 9-13 November. Two abstracts from the

Vietnamese team were presented at the Stansted meeting which means we are ahead of schedule in supporting them to undertake research and present its findings.

### Education

We continue our successful series of IPCRG Academy workshop programmes attracting delegates from a range of countries including the first meeting of the Airways School Asia Pacific run by the National Asthma Council Australia for a group of doctors from South Korea. There are two UK-based programmes left this year – the 'Basic COPD course: Is COPD a treatable disease?' on 23rd October 2009 and the 'IPCRG Advanced Course on COPD' 13th-14th November 2009, both in Aberdeen, Scotland. See <http://www.theipcr.org/educprog/index.php>

### External Affairs

In Rome, at the June 2009 Annual Meeting of the WHO's Global Alliance Against Chronic Respiratory Diseases (GARD), three IPCRG demonstration projects were approved. Congratulations to our colleagues in Vietnam for Asthma and COPD management and FRESH AIR, and Bangladesh for Better Breathing Bangladesh. We are delighted to report that Niels Chavannes was elected as Primary Care and Monica Fletcher as Allied Health Professional representatives on the GARD Planning Group, which constitutes the driving force behind GARD. We are at advanced stages of planning the next GARD general meeting to be run in Toronto, just before our Biennial Conference, which will further enhance the profile of the role of primary care in preventing and controlling chronic respiratory disease.

Catalina Panatescu, Romania, contributed to a meeting in Geneva in June at which the World Health Organisation (WHO) launched its Framework for Action on Inter-professional Education and Collaborative Practice. The meeting was attended by around 45 international representatives and key stake holders and the report will be published on the Health Professionals Global Network web site <http://hpgn.org/> that aims to encourage interprofessional dialogue.

And finally...

### 5th IPCRG World Conference, Toronto, Canada June 2-5, 2010

Abstract submission is now open! See <http://www.ipcr-g-toronto2010.org/> for more details. The IPCRG will be running a bursary programme for researchers who submit abstracts who need support to attend the meeting. We will use an invitation process to ensure that we support people from a range of countries and encourage new researchers.

Siân Williams, Executive Officer

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