



# DISCIPLINE OF GENERAL PRACTICE TEACHING NEWSLETTER

July, 2015

## Dear Colleagues

*We continue to be delighted with the feedback from students about their experiences with you during the general practice rotation. We are considering introducing a new work-based assessment task next year. Your students would be asked to search for the evidence to answer a clinical question of your choosing, and present a summary back to you; you would mark them on 4 or 5 criteria, including their appraisal of the relevance of the evidence for your patient. This would contribute 5-10% to their overall grade. We welcome your feedback on this initiative.*

*The news from the School of Medicine is that the first Year 1 MD cohort is progressing well. A Faculty restructure is upon us, which seems likely to entail the Discipline of General Practice being grouped with the Rural Clinical School and the School of Public Health into a new School, somewhat apart from the other clinical disciplines who will be located in hospital based schools. Although this was certainly not our preferred outcome, and the implications of this for the delivery of the MBBS and MD programmes are not yet fully clear, it is likely to be business as usual for most of us. One consequence of the Faculty restructure process is that the proposed semesterised block model for the clinical years will be postponed until 2017 to allow the new structure to settle in. So in 2016, you will continue to see five rotations of students, each for 7-8 weeks.*

*Finally, there are likely to be opportunities this year for general practices to host first year medical students for short 4 week elective placements over November and December. These give students an early taste of general practice, and attract PIP funding. Practices who would like to be placed on a database for this elective are kindly requested to email Heather McMaster at [h.mcmaster@uq.edu.au](mailto:h.mcmaster@uq.edu.au) who will forward your details to the Electives Office.*

*Professor Mieke van Driel, Head of Discipline  
Associate Professor Nancy Sturman, Academic  
Coordinator of General Practice Rotation*

## Featured Profile: Academic Registrars at DGP



### Dr Ethan Salleh

Having initially trained as a veterinarian and then an IT network systems analyst, Ethan has finally found his happy home in General Practice. He currently works as a final year GP registrar at a General Practice in Brisbane that has a special interest in sexual health and HIV medicine.

Ethan is currently conducting research within the HIV sphere as well as tutoring 3rd year medical students in their GP rotation for his academic post at the University of Queensland. He aims to maintain research and teaching activities whilst continuing to work clinically within General Practice.



### Dr Amelia Stephens

Amelia works part-time in General Practice at Clayfield Medical Centre and at the University of QLD as an Academic Registrar. Amelia's academic registrar role sees her involved with teaching as well as research. She is currently undertaking a project entitled 'Is

this safe for my baby' analysing Australian medications call centre data for both the public and health professionals to identify knowledge gaps and enable greater education in this area. Amelia loves getting involved with the teaching of medical students via their weekly PBL tutorials and is a keen advocate of wellbeing teaching for students also. This is something she hopes to explore more in the coming years.



### Dr Sarah James

Sarah completed her MBBS at UQ, graduating in 2006. After doing her intern and resident placements, she worked in Anaesthetics and ICU for several years. Sarah started General Practice training in 2014; in the same year she earned her Master of Public Health.

Now a GP Registrar at an AMS, Carbal Medical Centre, in Toowoomba, Sarah is also an Academic Registrar at the Rural Clinical School, Toowoomba where she tutors 3<sup>rd</sup> year medical students and is conducting a qualitative study titled "Barriers and Enablers to Contraception amongst Breastfeeding Aboriginal Women Postpartum".



## GENERAL PRACTITIONER TEACHING TIPS

Have the student's timetable so that procedures and patient reviews can be scheduled at suitable times.

Invite students to express their feelings, and share their perceptions after difficult or complex patient consultations.

Acknowledge the uncertainty in GP diagnosis: "It's OK not to know, but essential to follow up in these cases".

Bite-size, specific teaching points are preferable.

## STUDENTS' GENERAL PRACTICE EVALUATIONS

### What I liked most:

Nurses were very helpful in my learning especially regarding procedural skills and management plans.

I was integrated into the clinical team and was permitted to carry out procedural skills

The staff at this practice were phenomenal! I was allowed the privilege of being involved in consultations and in helping with hands-on experience.

The doctors at this practice all provided excellent clinical role models to try to emulate.

## RESOURCES ABOUT TEACHING

If you are looking for some resources about teaching in clinical practice, the DGP website <http://www.som.uq.edu.au/about/academic-disciplines/general-practice/our-teaching/general-practitioner-teachers/teaching-resources.aspx> provides a starting point with links to articles about teaching as well as research by DGP staff.

Other sites which may be of interest include:

- The ClinEd Aus Facilitating learning <http://www.clinedaus.org.au/topics-category/facilitating-learning-47>
- The Monash Practical Guide for Clinical Educators – particularly topics 3 Feedback and 4 Assessment <http://www.med.monash.edu.au/radiography/docs/practical-guide-for-clinical-educators.pdf>
- The Society of Teachers of Family Medicine site (teaching medical students search) <http://www.stfm.org/searchresults.aspx?q=teaching%20medical%20students&index=2>

### Remaining 2015 Dates

#### Third Year GP rotation:

20th July – 13th September

21st September – 15th November

#### 2015 Urban LinCC Placement

20th July – 23rd October

### Opportunities to participate in research on antibiotic prescribing

Professor Mieke van Driel is on the team which has recently been awarded a large grant to investigate the effect of an integrated intervention to rationalise antibiotic prescribing in General Practice. The team will be recruiting Brisbane-based general practices shortly. We welcome your participation.

## VISIT US

[www.som.uq.edu.au/about/academic-disciplines/general-practice.aspx](http://www.som.uq.edu.au/about/academic-disciplines/general-practice.aspx)

or contact Dr Nancy Sturman: [n.sturman1@uq.edu.au](mailto:n.sturman1@uq.edu.au)



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