

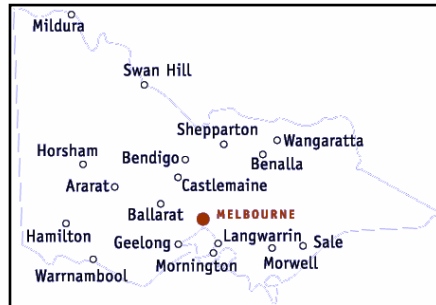


### DIAMOND LONGITUDINAL STUDY UPDATE

The last couple of months of 2005 have certainly been busy for the *diamond* Team. The last of the 30 Victorian GPs were recruited and screening of 18,000 patients is now complete. And to think, we only started in January of this year! We have been thrilled by the positive response from GPs and general practice patients across the state (*including rural and urban*), exemplified through the huge daily mail delivery we have had of completed *diamond* surveys throughout 2005. This great response would not have been possible without the support of the *diamond* GPs and their wonderful practice staff.

The *diamond* Study is the first of its kind in Australia to map the pathways to and from primary care for people experiencing depression and in the 12-month follow-up phase of the study, our cohort of almost 700 patients will be asked to take part in an in-depth telephone interview and to complete questionnaires at 3-monthly time points. It will allow patients to report on their emotional and physical health, their lifestyle and relationships, their use of health services and provide their own evaluation of the health care they receive. This will enable the research team to identify the experiences of Victorians who have depression and are being cared for in general practice. We will also better understand how general practice responds to the needs of a person experiencing depression. Overall, *diamond* will explore the patient, practitioner and systems factors affecting the diagnosis, management and outcomes of depression in the primary care setting. The results of this study will be available in 2007. In the meantime, visit

[www.diamond.unimelb.edu.au](http://www.diamond.unimelb.edu.au)  
for more information.



*diamond* study GP locations

### RE-ORDER PHD STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

Recently, a PhD Student Scholarship was offered for the **RE-ORDER** (Re-organizing care for depression and related disorders in the primary health care setting) project. The Scholarship was awarded to **Dr Caroline Johnson**. We would like to congratulate Caroline. Caroline is a GP and has worked a part-time lecturer at the University of Melbourne. She is looking forward to being more involved in primary mental health care research.

Caroline will work closely with A/Prof Jane Gunn and **Dr Renata Kokanovic**. Renata, a Senior Research Fellow, is also a new member of the RE-ORDER team. She previously worked at the Centre for International Mental Health, School of Population Health, University of Melbourne.



**Dr Caroline Johnson**

Welcome Renata and Caroline!



### INVITATION

We would like to invite you to attend the launch of the Australian Primary Health Care Research Institute funded (APHCRI) **RE-ORDER** (Re-organizing care for depression and related disorders in the primary health care setting) project to be launched by the Director of APHCRI, Professor Nicholas Glasgow.

**Tuesday 7 February 2006  
6.00-8.00pm**

**Gryphon Gallery, School of Graduate Studies, University of Melbourne**

For more information on the project, see 'Projects' at [www.diamond.unimelb.edu.au](http://www.diamond.unimelb.edu.au)

**RSVP by 23 January, 2006 to Miranda Hindle,**  
[mhindle@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:mhindle@unimelb.edu.au) or  
(03) 8344- 7449

### SEED AND CAPACITY BUILDING GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

To enable *diamond* Consortium members to build on the vision of the Consortium, seed and capacity building grant applications are welcome from Consortium members for research projects related to depression in primary care. For further information on the seed and capacity building grant process, contact Miranda Hindle on +61 3 8344 7449 or e-mail [mhindle@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:mhindle@unimelb.edu.au)

Four projects are currently funded by the Consortium. Please note that **all applications for funding in 2006 close on May 31 2006.**

## PROJECT UPDATE: THE PEP COLLABORATION

The PEP Collaboration (Primary Care Evidence Psychological Interventions) continues in 2006 with the randomised controlled trial of CBT training for GPs being conducted for the fifth time in South City Division in April and July of 2006. Funded by the *beyondblue* Victorian Centre of Excellence in Depression and Related Disorders: a collaborative initiative by *beyondblue*: the National Depression Initiative and the Victorian Department of Human Services, the study has collected data on GP improvements in knowledge, attitude and CBT skills as well as patient

outcomes and their experience of GP psychological care. GPs interested in enrolling in the study, which includes GPMHSC accredited Level 2 mental health skills training, should contact Ms Kathryn Gilson on (03) 8575 2247 or [Katrjn.Gilson@med.monash.edu.au](mailto:Katrjn.Gilson@med.monash.edu.au) or [grant.blashki@med.monash.edu.au](mailto:grant.blashki@med.monash.edu.au) for more information. GPs from other divisions are welcome to participate, but places are limited.

### DIAMOND CONSORTIUM COLLOQUIUM FOR RESEARCH HIGHER DEGREE STUDENTS

On 9 February 2006, the *diamond* Consortium will host 16 Research Higher Degree Students whose studies are in primary mental health. Students will discuss their studies with Prof Christopher Dowrick and Dr Frances Griffiths. To participate, please contact Miranda Hindle on (03) 8344 7449 or e-mail [mhindle@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:mhindle@unimelb.edu.au).

### RECENT CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

A/Prof Jane Gunn and Dr Gail Gilchrist recently presented on the *diamond* longitudinal study and the *diamond* Consortium at:

- Primary Mental Health Care, Perth, 3-7 November, 2005 and
- General Practitioner Exhibition & Conference, Melbourne, 11-13 November, 2005.

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Presentation by Dr. Frances Griffiths on 'Health outcomes research: using a case orientated focus with complexity as frame of reference'. Friday 3 February, 2006, 1-2pm. **RSVP by 23 January, 2006**
- Presentation by Prof. Christopher Dowrick: 'A fresh look at Anti-Depressant drug trials: exploring the placebo effect'. Friday 10 February, 2006, 1-2pm. **RSVP by 23 January, 2006**
- RE-ORDER Project Launch. Launched by APHCRI Director, Prof. Nicholas Glasgow and A/Prof Jane Gunn. Tuesday 7 February, 2006, 6-8pm. School of Graduate Studies, UoM. **RSVP by 23 January, 2006**  
RSVP to Miranda Hindle (03) 8344 7449 or [mhindle@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:mhindle@unimelb.edu.au)

### RECENTLY AWARDED SEED FUNDING PROJECT

Associate Professor Jane Fisher, Dr. Heather Rowe (Key Centre for Women's Health in Society, School of Population Health, University of Melbourne) and Associate Professor Jane Gunn (Department of General Practice, University of Melbourne), were recently awarded seed funding for their project:

**'Development, pilot testing and evaluation of an Enhanced Discharge Summary Form (EDSF) to improve uptake of ongoing primary health care after admission to a residential early parenting centre'.**  
*What is the study about?*

The project aims to develop and evaluate patient/practitioner communication tools to increase uptake of primary and specialist mental health care by mothers who have completed residential early parenting programs. Women admitted with their infants to Australia's residential early parenting programs have poor mental health, substantial unrecognized physical co-morbidity and complex adverse co-incident social circumstances. Depression and anxiety persist in some women after completing residential early parenting programs, but most do not regard themselves as being affected by mental illness and have a relatively low uptake of services that could assist them. Significant numbers do not have a relationship with a general practitioner or a maternal and child health nurse.

### DO YOU HAVE ANY RESEARCH OR BEST PRACTICE YOU WANT TO SHARE WITH US?

Contact: Miranda Hindle on (03) 8344 7449 or e-mail [mhindle@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:mhindle@unimelb.edu.au)

### MEMBER PROFILE

#### ASSOCIATE

**PROFESSOR JANE FISHER** has been on the academic staff of the Key Centre for Women's Health in Society, University of Melbourne since 1998 and her interests include the social determinants of women's mental health, non-pharmacological approaches to treatment and mental health promotion and prevention. She has a particular interest in the links between reproductive health and mental health, especially infertility and assisted conception, operative intervention in childbirth and early parenting difficulties. Jane Fisher has been the Consultant Clinical Psychologist at Masada Private Hospital's Mother Baby Unit since it opened in 1996.



A/Prof Jane  
Fisher

