Western Victoria PHN’s
General Practitioner Opioid Dependence Treatment
Grants
(Barwon South West Region)

Grant Guidelines and Assessment Criteria

This document should be used to assist applicants in applying for the Grant. It provides background information, guidelines and assessment criteria.
Contents
Important dates and information at a glance .......................................................... 3
Background and Aims ............................................................................................... 3
Eligibility .................................................................................................................. 3
Scholarship Value and Requirements ................................................................. 4
How To Apply ......................................................................................................... 4
Responsibilities ..................................................................................................... 4
Application and Assessment Process ................................................................. 5
   Selection Criteria ............................................................................................... 5
   Assessment Process .......................................................................................... 5
Payment of Scholarship Grant ......................................................................... 5
Complaints ........................................................................................................... 5
Contacts ............................................................................................................. 5
Appendix 1 ......................................................................................................... 6
Import dates and information at a glance

- Applications open: 2nd June 2016
- Applications close: 17th June 2016 at 8am
- Completed applications must be submitted electronically to aneill.kamath@westvicphn.com.au
- Applicants must address the Selection Criteria and provide evidence of registration of training
- Applicants will be notified of the outcomes of the selection process by 21st June 2016
- The scholarship grant is to the value of $5000 (gst exc)

Background and Aims

The Victorian Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) has established five area based pharmacotherapy networks across the state. The networks have been established to ensure a more local approach in connecting care, driving best practice and improving opioid replacement therapy (ORT) client outcomes. The networks aim to improve service coordination, including referral pathways, and enhance the capacity of the workforce.

The Victorian ORT model is a ‘community based’ model that promotes the prescribing of ORT in a general practice setting as research identifies better outcomes in this setting than public ‘clinic’ based settings. Primarily due to the emerging issue of pharmaceutical opioid dependence, there has been a rapid increase in service demand with the current workforce finding it difficult to absorb this demand. The DHHS are promoting a tiered service model that aims to deliver a more efficient and effective pharmacotherapy service that responds to fluctuating levels of client need.

The Barwon South West Pharmacotherapy Area Based Network (PABN) provides support to ‘community based’ practitioners as outlined in appendix 1

One component of the pharmacotherapy network project is the implementation of a scholarship program. The pharmacotherapy networks are aiming to attract motivated general practitioners to the field and support and develop their capacity through the provision of scholarship funding.

Eligibility

As the lead agency for the Barwon South West Pharmacotherapy Area Based Network, the PHN is seeking applications from AHPRA registered general practitioners or GP registrars in their final year of training who are practicing in the Barwon South West region. Applicants must have an interest in Pharmacotherapy and a willingness to expand their knowledge and skill base in this area.

Applicants will need to provide evidence of registration for

- GP Training Program for Medication Assisted Treatment for Opioid Dependence.
  - Module 1: Safer Opioid Prescribing (online or face-to-face)
  - Module 2: Medication Assisted Treatment for Opioid Dependence (face-to-face workshop)

The next available training is Sunday, June 19th 2016, Melbourne. Register for this training here
**Scholarship Value and Requirements**

Scholarships to the value of $5,000 (gst exc) will be awarded to successful applicants.

This scholarship will be provided to a GP who has registered for:

- GP Training Program for Medication Assisted Treatment for Opioid Dependence.
  - Module 1: Safer Opioid Prescribing (online or face-to-face)
  - Module 2: Medication Assisted Treatment for Opioid Dependence (face-to-face workshop)

At completion of training the scholarship awardee will be required to commence prescribing ORT and become a pharmacotherapy GP Champion in their clinic [if 5 or more GPs] or local network of GPs.

- As a champion the GP will:
  - promote ORT training and the benefits of ORT prescribing;
  - Promote the PHN’s Pharmacotherapy Area Based Network with colleagues;
  - Engage colleagues to undertake pharmacotherapy practice and training.

The PABN will assist to co-facilitate these activities.

**How To Apply**

The General Practitioner Pharmacotherapy Scholarship Grant application form must be used. Applications that do not use this application form will not be assessed.

The completed application form should be emailed to

- Email: aneill.kamath@westvicphn.com.au

Applications open: 2\(^{nd}\) June 2016
Applications close: 17\(^{th}\) June 2016  at 8am

**Responsibilities**

PHN is responsible for:

- Providing the scholarship funds to an eligible recipient via a transparent process.
- Monitoring the use of scholarship funds to ensure the aims of the Pharmacotherapy project are met

Scholarship recipient is responsible for:

- Completing activities awarded under the scholarship aligned with the aims of the Pharmacotherapy Project.
- Notification to PHN if discontinuing scholarship activities for any reason.
**Application and Assessment Process**

**Selection Criteria**
Applicants must provide a concise plan on how they will meet the requirements of the scholarship as indicated below

- Commence prescribing ORT and become a pharmacotherapy GP Champion in their clinic [if 5 or more GPs] or local network of GPs. As a champion the GP will promote ORT training and the benefits of ORT prescribing;
- Promote the PHN’s Pharmacotherapy Area Based Network with colleagues;
- Engage colleagues to undertake pharmacotherapy practice and training

Note: The PABN can assist to co-facilitate these activities and this should be included in your plan. Refer to appendix 1 or call 03 5564 5888 to learn more.

**Assessment Process**
Applications will be assessed by the PHN. Funding recipients will be selected on the basis of their written applications. These applications will be assessed against the stated selection criteria and evidence of registration of training

It is anticipated that all applicants will be advised of the outcomes of the assessment process by 25th June 2016.

**Payment of Scholarship Grant**
Successful applicants will sign a Letter of Agreement (LoA) with the PHN to undertake scholarship activities as proposed in the Selection Criteria. The grant will be paid by the PHN on receipt of the LoA and tax invoice from the applicant. If the applicant does not have an ABN then they will be provided with an ATO Statement of Supplier to complete.

**Complaints**
If an applicant for grant funding is dissatisfied with the decision, or the process undertaken coming to the decision, an applicant can email the PHN and the complaint will be handled in accordance with the PHN Complaints Policy and Procedure.

Complaints regarding the scholarship funding agreement that has been executed will be handled in accordance with the agreement.

**Contacts**
All inquiries about the application process can be directed to:
Aneill Kamath, Pharmacotherapy Network Coordinator
Email: aneill.kamath@westvicphn.com.au
Ph: 03 5564 5888
Appendix 1

Western Victoria Primary Health Network (PHN): Pharmacotherapy Area Based Network (PABN)
Clinical Advisor Phone: Geelong Office 5222 0800; Warrnambool Office 5564 5888
RAMPS Clinical Nurse Phone: 5564 5888 Fax: 5564 5800

Information & Resources
- Detailed care and referral pathways related to pharmacotherapy
- Web downloads of latest guidelines, health professional resources and more

Clinical Support & Advice
- RAMPS (Rural Addiction Medicine Pharmacotherapy Specialists): Provides access to an Addiction Medicine Specialist (AMS) for GP secondary consults and education
- Guidance on Department of Health and Human Service requirement for prescribing Schedule 8 medications
- Access to online forum to share information and gain support with other health professionals working in pharmacotherapy.

Education
- Access to pharmacotherapy prescriber training
- Access to a range of RACGP accredited CPD events on addiction and chronic pain
- Access to Pharmacotherapy Communities of Practice (CoP): A health professional led informal, self-organised, network of peers with diverse skills and experience. CoP members are provided with collegial support, development and learning opportunities to enable them to improve the quality of pharmacotherapy services across the Barwon South West region. CoP activities may include case discussions, expert speakers, workshopping local requirements and forums