

REPORT FROM CHAIRPERSON OF DIABETES NURSE SPECIALIST SECTION (2007)

It's been a busy year with what feels like a vast increase in workload for all members of the committee.

Accreditation of Diabetes Nurse Specialist/Educator

The Accreditation Board has completed its review of this process for those wishing to become accredited diabetes nurse specialist/educators. A small pilot was organised to test out the process and it is now ready for those applicants who are renewing their status or applying for the first time. Both NZSSD and the DNSS have sent out electronic reminders where to access the new applications packs. An update on the process is to be presented at the AGM and conference.

A training day for standardised assessment of portfolios has been run at Palmerston North for 10 members of the section, which included the accreditation board and 6 others. The idea is that the work of assessment of portfolios is to be done by a larger number of people. This assessment course was paid jointly by NZSSD and the DNSS (NZNO). The diabetes nurse specialist thanks NZSSD for their support. Well done to the accreditation board members past and present involved in the review process for all their hard work and thanks to NZNO for their support in this process.

Electronic contact tree and membership

The electronic contact tree remains an issue, with lack of up-to-date information about members and their contacts. At the last exec meeting the plan has been agreed to scrap the old version and start again. Until this has been organised we will continue to use the old but imperfect version.

The membership secretary Annette Keid has also been working hard to sort out the membership list with NZNO. We currently have 347 members, of whom we know 131 are full members, 17 are known associate and the rest are unknown. A request for up to date contact information is going out in the next newsletter again which will be a hard copy, maybe our last so it is vital that members keep us informed of their details. Thank you to Annette for her persistence and hard work in endeavouring to improve the electronic contact tree and keeping the membership up to date.

Newsletter.

This has been circulated in hard copy version for 2006 -2007. It will be only posted electronically in the future on the NZNO web page and NZSSD as it is a lot of work on the sections part to organise its circulation. NZNO did support its circulation originally, but this newsletter along with those belonging to other sections, it had become increasingly difficult to support for a variety of reasons: one being that trying to circulate information electronically often it was not accepted by work email addresses and contact details were not necessarily correct.

We thank Novo Nordisk for their sponsorship this year in meeting the costs of printing and postage of the newsletter. We thank the Newsletter editor Cate Wilson who stepped into the role again after a brief absence when her term was completed as the South Island representative for all her hard work at creating the newsletter.

AGM

At AGM it is hoped that the remits will be accepted. They are related to acceptance of the template rules and changes re membership of the section for those who are full members. As the accreditation board is using hours of practice, the exec is suggesting that

- full members are those that can demonstrate 780 hours in the field of diabetes education and clinical management in the preceding 12 months.
- Members of the exec committee are to include no more than 2 members who have fewer than 1560 hours in the field of diabetes education and clinical management in the preceding 2 years.
- The exec committee shall have no fewer than 7 members and no more than 8 members.
- The outgoing exec will provide support to the incoming exec for a period of 6 months. This it was felt was important when there may be a large change in the members of the committee.

The diabetes nurse specialist study which is being run prior to the NZSSD conference and this year will be run jointly with Australian Diabetes Educators Association on 4th September in Christchurch. There are three streams that members can choose from: motivational interviewing workshop, insulin manipulation or abstract submission. The main conference is also being run jointly by ADEA, ADS and NZSSD. The Diabetes Nurse Specialist Section AGM will be on the Wednesday morning 5th September at 7.30. It is early this year as the main conference is starting at 08.30. **We need your attendance at the AGM.** It is hoped that both will be successful.

The committee has decided not to have a study day at the Pacific Island Rim IDF meeting in March in 2008 in Wellington, largely because this meeting is quite large and it is expensive. It will only be 6 months since the last study day. We have an opportunity to hold the AGM at the symposium, which is a sponsored meeting by Novo and Roche for diabetes nurse specialist and educators, held on an annual basis, the date in 2008 is to be confirmed.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the members of the committee past and present with whom I have worked during my term on the committee and as chairperson. Without all your willing hard work, participation, camaraderie and support, this committee would not be able to function. I wish the future committee members best of luck and thank all those who as stepping off the committee this year for their tremendous work.

Bobby Milne
Chairperson DNSS (NZNO)