

Winter is upon us again and we are certainly feeling it! Short days and chilly nights are here to stay for a few more months and it's time to get the winter doona out and dust off the heater! Winter also brings with it nasty bugs like the flu so make sure you take precautions to avoid spread of disease among frail residents and other staff attending to them. With the flu and other bugs around, we become inundated with shifts that need covering - especially last minute ones - when permanent staff call in sick at the facilities. It is crucial that we have correct availabilities for you at all times so that we can give you the shifts you want and at the same time are able to get back to the facilities to let them know whether we can cover their shift or not. You can update your availabilities on a fortnightly, weekly, daily or even hourly(!) basis by calling or emailing our office.

Karoline :o)

FLU SEASON!

As mentioned, the flu season is upon us and it is important that you take precautions such as getting Vaccinated against this season's flu, wash your hands often and wear gloves to ensure that you do not get infected or transfer any bugs to other people or places. Strict adherence to infection control guidelines should help minimize the risk of falling victim to nasty bugs this winter. Should you, however, become ill with the flu or other transferrable diseases, please stay away from work until you have recovered. Going to work sick will only infect other staff and, more importantly, residents who have a weaker immune system and who in turn can become fatally ill if they contract the cold or flu. If you feel unwell, contact us immediately and take yourself off call and cancel any shifts you have been rostered for until you have recovered completely.



TAX TIME

As we are nearing the end of another financial year it is time to prepare for tax time! As always, PULSE will send out your group certificate in the beginning of July so remember to ensure that we have the correct postal address for you if we normally send correspondence to you on email. We can organize for your group certificate to be sent on email if this is your preference. Please notify the office if this is the case. Also remember that you can claim training courses, uniforms and other work related expenses on your tax!



RNS AND ENS - RENEW REGISTRATIONS

For many of you, your registrations ran out on May 31st, 2011 under the new Commonwealth system. Make sure you apply for a renewal as soon as possible if you have not already done so to avoid missing out on any work. You are legally unable to practice as a nurse once your registration runs out on 30th this month. Go to the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency website for more information on your rights and obligations under the new government system (<http://www.ahpra.gov.au/>).

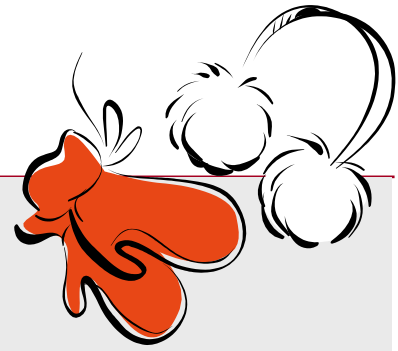
DEMENTIA CARE ESSENTIALS

Dementia Care Essentials (DCE) is a Commonwealth Government initiative offering nationally recognised dementia care training to aged care workers throughout Australia. As a Commonwealth funded initiative Dementia Care Essentials is FREE to eligible care workers in residential, respite and community care services and the wider health sector. The current program continues to April 2012 and is available in metropolitan Perth and throughout regional WA. For more information about the training courses and to register go to: <http://dementia.acswa.org.au/listprogramme.aspx?st=wa>

dementia care essentials
DEMENTIA EDUCATION PROGRAM



An Australian Government Initiative



STAFF SPECIAL RECOGNITION:

Diane Vince - EN

From the day she started Diane has gone over and above her duties to make sure she represents PULSE in a professional and positive way. She takes her job very seriously, and is such an asset to our team. Diane is always reliable and positive, and makes an effort to help out wherever it is needed. We have received lots of positive feedback about Diane and clients request her as a preferred nurse in many facilities she has been to. Thank you so much for your hard work and professionalism Diane, we really appreciate it!



COMPULSORY TRAINING UPDATES

As you all know, you are required to do a manual handling refresher course each year and update your police clearance every three years. Make sure you put these dates in your diary so you can prepare for these updates well in advance and that way not miss out on any work. Failing to keep your training and police checks up to date will lead to a discontinuation of your employment with PULSE until we receive your updated documents.

AVAILABILITY: THE KEY TO GET SHIFTS!

Please keep us updated with your availabilities so we can provide you with the shifts you want. If you are no longer available, please let the office know as early as possible so we do not call and disturb you - especially early in the morning!



CONTACTING PULSE

We have had some staff try to call the mobile numbers that we send SMSes from. These numbers are generated from our database and can only receive text messages, not calls. Please call our office number if you wish to speak with us.

COFFEE BREAK

Three ladies were discussing the travails of getting older. One said, "Sometimes I catch myself with a jar of mayonnaise in my hand, while standing in front of the refrigerator, and I can't remember whether I need to put it away, or start making a sandwich." The second lady chimed in with, "Yes, sometimes I find myself on the landing of the stairs and can't remember whether I was on my way up or on my way down." The third one responded, "Well, ladies, I'm glad I don't have that problem. Knock on wood," as she rapped her knuckles on the table, and then said, "That must be the door, I'll get it!"

www.ahajokes.com



My grandfather is hard of hearing. He needs to read lips. I don't mind him reading lips, but he uses one of those yellow highlighters.

Brian Kiley

IS IT TIME YOUR HOME LOAN HAD A HEALTH CHECK?

Life is busy enough, why waste **your** time searching for the best home loan when I can do that for you. I have over 8 yrs lending experience with access to over 30 lenders.

A review of your situation could help you achieve your financial goals, For example:
- changing your loan structure to perhaps reduce repayments or shorten your loan term
- releasing some equity in your current home to allow you to realise that dream holiday or perhaps purchase that investment property

As an added bonus for **PULSE Healthcare Employees** all new settled loans will qualify for a **\$50 Coles / Myer voucher** (including any referred loans), so tell your family and friends to get a home loan health check as well. **Become energy efficient and make just one call to me.**

Craig Sawkins (Accredited Mortgage Consultant)



ICARE SYSTEMS

Many of our clients are using the iCare computer system now to record clinical and care documentation for their residents. The aim is for the clients to more accurately and efficiently share information about their residents such as progress notes, assessment tools, forms, charts and nursing care plans. You will be introduced to this program where necessary, and given a username and password so that you are able to enter information into the system when you are working a shift where this system is used.

