



Newsletter October 2014

Hurray!! Spring is here with hopefully warmer weather for all!

It was wonderful to meet so many of you at the recent NZCOM Conference in Hamilton. We really enjoyed putting faces to names and chatting with you.

There is quite a bit of housekeeping information we need to share with you in this newsletter so please take the time to read it to keep up to date.

Emergency Locum Cover:

If you need to apply for Emergency locum cover for medical or surgical requirements, please send any documentation from your doctor, hospital or specialist that advises your appointment date for admission.

Locum Cover:

Please don't assume that locum cover you apply for will go ahead until you receive your confirmation email from us! Some LMC's are contacting the locum of their choice to check if she is available to cover for the days required then applying for the cover with us. We have a process to adhere to for audit requirements. After we have checked that the LMC meets our criteria we speak with the locum as part of our checks during the booking process. Some requests do not pass all checks and are declined, so please have a plan B in place in case you need to use it.

Also note that locum cover applications must be for a minimum of three days.

Feedback from locums providing cover has made us aware that sometime an unfair burden is being placed on the locum by a practice. Our locums are engaged to provide cover for the LMC noted on their contract. They must not be asked to also provide cover for other LMC's on rostered days off

or for illness within the practice during their period of locum cover. A clear discussion between you and the locum at the outset will overcome most of these issues.

We are always willing to assist practices in situations where they want to engage a locum for additional days of private cover at the conclusion of a booking through RMRRS. To ensure continuation of cover please communicate your needs to us when filing your application. This will help to ensure the same locum is engaged for both the Rural and private placements and avoid the need for us to replace an already confirmed locum for a privately engaged one.

Are you interested in becoming a Locum?

Are you available to travel around New Zealand? While we have fantastic Locums on our data base we sometimes find it difficult to fill requests at short notice. Our preference is always to appoint a local locum as this ensures the best use of our resources but we often need to call around the country to find a suitable locum who would need to be away from home and practice fairly quickly. If you are interested feel free to call us. We rarely accept locums that only make themselves available for one period of locum cover so please consider your overall availability before applying.

Mentors:

We need more Mentors!! Our valuable mentoring service suffers from a lack of mentors keen to provide an ear, their experience, compassion and encouragement to those LMC's on our register who request a mentoring "buddy" for 12 months. We have found that many LMC's who have received mentoring through the Rural service subsequently register as mentors so they can share their own skills with others. If you are interested in learning more please call us. Application forms can be found under the applications tab on our website; www.midwiferyrecruitment.org.nz

Payments:

A reminder that we generally make payments to our midwives on a Thursday afternoon. Cut off time for receiving your paperwork in our office is 12 p.m. every Thursday. Audit requirements mean we cannot accept signed payment requests from anyone *other* than the LMC that booked the cover.

Update your details with us:

Please update your details. E.g. any new phone, email, fax, pager numbers. Also update your availability if you are a locum.

Christmas is fast approaching:

We are receiving requests for locum cover during December and January. It's a very popular time of year so get your requests in early to give us time to complete them and to give you some certainty around your days off.

Please keep your requests to a minimum of 3 days. Last year we had some instances of midwives applying to register as locums to cover periods while our office was closed. We need to check all applications against our criteria and some LMC's were declined as they were not eligible to be locums so remember to have a Plan B in place in case we are unable to fund the locum cover.

Our office will be closed between 24 December and 5 January 2015.

www.midwiferyrecruitment.org.nz