

## Victorian Viral Hepatitis Educator

### Why is education relating to viral hepatitis important?

- Cases of both Hepatitis B & C are increasing in Australia.
- ~ 90,000 - 160,000 Australians are living with chronic Hepatitis B
- ~ 208,000 Australians are living with chronic Hepatitis C  
(Compare: ~ 16,692 people living with HIV)
- Hepatitis B and C are often under diagnosed
- Awareness of transmission modes and at risk populations is important
- The efficacy of Hepatitis C treatment has improved and CURE is possible.

### What is this position about?

The Victorian Viral Hepatitis Educator is based at St. Vincent's hospital in the Gastroenterology department and funded by DHS to provide education relating to hepatitis B and C to health professionals across Victoria. The current Victorian Viral Hepatitis Educator is a health professional with a background in education and infectious diseases.

### Who is the education for?

Health professionals who work with priority populations. This may include: General Practitioners and Practice Nurses, Nurses from all sectors and specialties, Medical and Nursing students, Community health workers (Allied health, NSP & AOD), Aged care workers, Indigenous health workers, Dentists, Dental students and Pharmacists.

### What type of education is provided?

Information is presented in a clear, accessible manner based on current evidence by combination of a power point presentation and interactive activity to promote discussion. It can include epidemiology, transmission risks, prevention, current treatments, ongoing management and psychosocial issues related to hepatitis B & C. Education is responsive to the learning needs of the health professional group.

### How much does it cost?

Education sessions are FREE

### Where and when are the education sessions held?

Education sessions are brought to you and can be held anywhere in Victoria at an agreed location. Sessions can be conducted at a time that best suits your staff; including evenings if this is preferable.

### How long are the sessions for?

This will depend on your professional groups needs, but generally sessions are for at least one hour to maximise benefit.

### How do I organise an information/education session?

Contact Frances Cieslak at [frances.cieslak@svhm.org.au](mailto:frances.cieslak@svhm.org.au)  
OR phone (03) 9288 3586, M: 0407865140