

GP depression awareness training

Protect life: a shared vision, the Northern Ireland suicide prevention strategy and action plan 2006-2011, includes a commitment to the provision of training in depression awareness for General Practitioners and other primary care professionals and staff.

The Health Promotion Agency for Northern Ireland in partnership with key representatives from Health and Social Services Boards (HSSBs), primary care and public health and the voluntary sector has developed a training programme for GPs. This programme, which is being organised in each Board area, will include a half-day training session, supported by supplementary literature and an interactive CD ROM.

In order to encourage a 'whole practice' approach, practices will be offered a follow-up event that will provide an opportunity to cascade the learning to others who are unable to attend and address wider practice issues in relation to detection, management and treatment of depression.

Funding for locum cover is available through your local GP Unit in your HSSB. The training sessions are as follows:

EHSSB

Wednesday 21 March 2007	12.30 pm to 5.15pm	Ramada Hotel, Belfast
Thursday 22 March 2007	12.30 pm to 5.15pm	Lansdowne Hotel, Belfast

NHSSB

Tuesday 27 February 2007	12.30pm to 5.15pm	Clarion Hotel, Carrickfergus
Wednesday 7 March 2007	12.30pm to 5.15pm	Lodge Hotel, Coleraine
Wednesday 21 March 2007	12.30pm to 5.15pm	Ross Park Hotel, Kells

SHSSB

Wednesday 7 February 2007	9.15am to 2.00pm	Armagh City Hotel, Armagh
Tuesday 13 February 2007	9.15am to 2.00pm	Seagoe Hotel, Portadown
Thursday 22 February 2007	9.15am to 2.00pm	Canal Court, Newry

WHSSB

Wednesday 21 February 2007	9.15am to 2.00pm	City Hotel, Londonderry
Tuesday 27 February 2007	9.15am to 2.00pm	Manor House, Enniskillen