New fellow positions in refugee health

The Department of Health in Victoria has funded four refugee fellow positions in refugee health to build capacity across the state to improve refugee and asylum seeker health care.

Their roles include:

- Improving coordination of refugee and asylum seeker health care
- Providing advice and liaison about clinical issues in people who are refugee background/asylum seekers
- Providing education in refugee health to GPs, specialists, nurses, hospital staff and allied health as required, and in response to provider requests.

Fellows are happy to speak to either large or small groups, and can travel to outer metropolitan or regional areas if required. They can provide information across a variety of topics, and are happy to compile information on emerging issues.

Dr Gardiner

Dr Joanne Gardiner is a GP with a special interest in refugee mental health. She works in community health and at Foundation House, and in the Immigrant and Refugee Clinic at the Victorian Infectious Diseases Service (VIDS) Royal Melbourne Hospital (RMH) and the Peter Doherty Centre in Parkville.

Dr Gardiner runs a clinic for refugees on Tuesday mornings from 9am to 1pm, for refugee health assessments, complex problems, mental health and those not linked into a GP.

A GP referral is not needed, but a brief note outlining the client’s contact details, language and interpreter requirements, and a brief statement regarding the reason for the referral, can be faxed to:
Dr Joanne Gardiner, VIDS, 9th floor, RMH  FAX +61 3 9342 7277

AVAILABLE  Monday–Friday  EMAIL  refugee.fellow@mh.org.au  TELEPHONE  +61 3 9342 7000

Dr Chaves

Dr Nadia Chaves is an infectious diseases and general physician. She works at cohealth Kensington and is based at the Victorian Infectious Diseases Service (VIDS) Royal Melbourne Hospital and the Peter Doherty Institute in Parkville.

AVAILABLE  Monday, Tuesday, Thursday  EMAIL  refugee.fellow@mh.org.au  TELEPHONE  +61 3 9342 7000

Dr Timlin

Dr Mark Timlin is a GP at the Monash Health Refugee Health and Wellbeing service in Melbourne’s South East. He has extensive experience in refugee health, having spent some time in Afghanistan, and has a particular interest in mental health.

AVAILABLE  Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday  EMAIL  mark.timlin@monashhealth.org  TELEPHONE  +61 3 9792 8100  MOBILE  0407 051 086

Dr Kiang

Dr Karen Kiang is a paediatric fellow with the Immigrant Health Service, The Royal Children’s Hospital Melbourne, providing outreach to Footscray, and supporting other child-related services (early intervention, schools, maternal child health nurses, allied health, etc).

AVAILABLE  Monday–Friday  EMAIL  refugee.fellow@rch.org.au  TELEPHONE  +61 3 9345 5522 (page 7142)