

MEDIA RELEASE

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Blood products workshop draws attendees from Toowoomba and beyond

The second Darling Downs Hospital and Health Service (DDHHS) Blood and Blood Products workshop will be held at Toowoomba City Golf Club this Friday, 15 April.

DDHHS Transfusion Nurse Susan Kay said the workshop would be a great opportunity for nursing staff to enhance their skills and knowledge base around blood and blood products.

“Our first workshop on 7 March was held at Toowoomba Hospital, and it was very well received,” Ms Kay said.

“For this second workshop we’ve had so much interest that a move to a larger venue was warranted, so we’re looking forward to getting together at Toowoomba city Golf Club on Friday.

“Our line-up of speakers come from fields including haematology, pharmacy, pathology, Jehovah’s Witness Hospital liaison, and the Australian Red Cross Blood Service, so there will be a wealth of knowledge available on the day.

“We’ll cover a range of topics with highlights including presentations on the various types of infusions that are available; when to use and management of blood products and iron infusions; management of adverse reactions; and options for patients who choose not to receive blood products, plus much more.”

Ms Kay said feedback received after the first workshop in March indicated that those in attendance were very happy with the event.

“It was very pleasing when the staff who attended said how much they’d enjoyed it, and that was reflected in the evaluation forms,” Ms Kay said.

“We were excited to hear that the people who attended especially liked the format of the presentations and the information they took away.

“We have opened this workshop up to nurses from outside DDHHS, and it’s wonderful to see that we’ve had RSVPs from nurses in Brisbane, the South West Hospital and Health Service, St Vincent’s Toowoomba and St Andrew’s Toowoomba.

“We are fully subscribed with more than one hundred nurses booked to attend so we’re anticipating another tremendous opportunity to share knowledge.

“As a health care resource, blood and blood products are extremely precious, so we need to ensure we are using them in the most effective ways possible, always remembering that they are only available due to the generosity of donors.”

Ends

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