

Fremantle Hospital and Health Service



Prevention is better than cure

Preventative medicine was the winner when Fremantle Hospital staff went that extra yard again to highlight World Kidney Day.

Renal Unit staff set up stations on Level 5 of B Block and invited visitors and staff to have a range of checks as part of their push to educate people on the risks associated with Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD).

The second annual screening was a great success.

Clinical Nurse Manager Janet MacMillan, who coordinated the renal testing team, said about 200 people had the tests.

A steady stream of people moved between the testing stations, which included assessment of: body mass index, blood pressure, and urine analysis by staff and consultation by renal physician Dr Jagadish Jamboti.

Dr Jamboti said preventing CKD with simple tests had the potential to save millions of dollars across health.

“After analysis we contact anybody with an outcome that concerns us, ensuring appropriate follow up care,” Dr Jamboti said.



ABOVE: A steady stream of staff and visitors to the hospital took advantage of the free screenings.



ABOVE: Sue Duffell takes the first of two checks with Christine Becker to determine her body mass index (BMI). This is calculated using height and weight formula.

LEFT: Robyn Challis gets her Creatine level check (this shows if the kidneys are functioning normally) by Sonia Parfremment.



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“It’s a perfect example of how simple tests can prevent bigger health issues.”

“It was also important to have the medical advice on hand in such a one-to-one situation,” Dr Jamboti said.

“Anybody who we detected with elevated readings was given advice on the spot to defray any concerns or worries.”

Dr Jamboti said staff had done an outstanding job.

“Everybody knows we work very hard, as do other nurses and staff, and it is pleasing when people do that little bit extra, all in the interest of preventing disease,” he said.

Fremantle Hospital offers outstanding service in renal medicine. The hospital services the renal dialysis unit at Fremantle and a satellite dialysis unit at Melville.

“Many people talk about preventative medicine - this is what was in action at Fremantle Hospital during our screening tests and it will continue as a fixture on our calendar each year,” Dr Jamboti said.

He said people who had missed out on the free screening should contact their GP.



World Kidney Day 2009

ABOVE: Gim Andrews (left) completes her urine analysis test with Su Betti. The test includes checking urine for protein, sugar and any abnormal findings like blood or nitrites.



RIGHT: Jenny Goldsworthy (left) has her blood pressure checked by Sandie Porter.

FHHS Employee of the Month



Melanie Olding (Orthopaedic Intern), Dr Sanjana Kondola (EOTM winner) and Annie Thompson (Chair EOTM).

January’s winner, Dr Sanjana Kondola is the second doctor to be recognised with an Employee of the Month award (EOTM).

A special presentation was held in V5 with “Sanja”, who works in general medicine. She was presented with a certificate and prizes by A/Executive Director Dr Shirley Bowen.

“The main goal of the Employee of the Month award is to acknowledge and honour our great employees,” A/Chair EOTM Committee Annie Thompson said.

“The feedback and the amount of nominations received every month makes it very hard to choose our winners. They are all very deserving!”

Special thanks to our sponsors who generously support the Employee of the Month awards.

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