The PARTY Project has been continuing to work with general practices in Melbourne and regional areas. Despite the constant and varied demands on their time and energies (especially in the wake of the swine flu) the practices continue their commitment to PARTY. We could not conduct our research without their support and we are extremely grateful to all practice staff. At all stages throughout the Project, the PARTY staff aim to support the practices to ensure that their research participation is manageable and rewarding. We recognise the importance of working together, as a team, to achieve the aims of the Project within the realities of the general practice setting.

In optimising our work with the practices we have decided to have a PARTY research assistant on-hand in the practices as an alternative approach to the clinicians’ recruitment of the young people attending the general practice consultations. We will negotiate the strategy that fits best with existing practice processes, on a practice-by-practice basis.

To date we have conducted 827 (306 pre-intervention & 521 post-intervention) Exit Surveys with young people recruited after their consultations, plus 345 3 month follow-up surveys and 175 12 month follow-up surveys.

The annual General Practice & Primary Health Care Research Conference is to be held in Melbourne from July 15 - 17. The PARTY Team is delighted that the three abstracts we submitted have all been accepted for oral or poster presentations at this conference. This year’s conference theme is “Driving Change”, a concept which is very much behind the work of the PARTY Project. We are aiming to provide evidence which will facilitate change in young people’s primary health care, at both a policy and practice level.

For further information about the PARTY trial, please contact Brenda Grabsch. PARTY Project Coordinator, on (03) 8344 7196.

If you want to take part, time is running out.....

...but it is not yet too late if your general practice is interested in:

- **FREE** expert training in communicating with young people about their health & youth friendly practice
- Earning at least 40 (but up to 120) Category 1 RACGP QA &CPD points for GPs
- A $1,000 honorarium to the practice
- Analysed feedback from your young patients whom we follow up at 3 & 12 months
- Your young patients going into a draw for an iPod

If “YES”: for more information please telephone Kitty at the Department of General Practice on 8344 4538.
New PARTY staff member joins the team

We are delighted to welcome Caroline Hart to the PARTY Team. Caroline has considerable experience in health research, having previously held research posts in Ireland and the UK; in academic settings and not-for-profit organisations. She has carried out research on issues related to young people and families, particularly with regard to disability and mental health, and has a keen interest in action research. Caroline’s responsibilities in the PARTY project will involve practice audits and support to general practices during systems change. She is enthusiastic about her new role in the PARTY project and is looking forward to utilising her skills in this exciting project.

CONTACT PARTY
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