Could your local area benefit from a practitioner network that focuses on coronary heart disease & mental health?

The Mental Health Professionals’ Network (MHPN) seeks to establish local collaborative interdisciplinary networks across Australia with a focus on coronary heart disease (CHD) and mental health.

The National Heart Foundation of Australia recently published expert consensus statements in the Medical Journal of Australia that focus on psychosocial risk factors and depression in the management of patients with CHD. There are high rates of depression in patients with CHD and screening is recommended when they first present to their GP or health professional. The statement on depression is a guide for health professionals on screening, referral and treatment for depression in patients with CHD. The statements are available at: www.heartfoundation.org.au/psychosocial-health

With support from the Heart Foundation, MHPN produced an educational webinar on CHD and mental health, A Collaborative Approach to Supporting People with Coronary Heart Disease and Depression. Click here to watch the webinar recording.

About networks
MHPN establishes and supports interdisciplinary mental health practitioner networks across the country. These locally-driven networks aim to improve consumer outcomes by promoting collaborative practice and peer support amongst clinicians who provide services to people with mental health issues. Learn more about MHPN at www.mhpn.org.au.

Benefits of establishing a local network
By establishing an MHPN network with a focus on coronary heart disease and mental health, you can:

- bring together health professionals working in the coronary heart disease and mental health care sectors to discuss how to work together better to support clients with coronary heart disease and mental illness
- expand your local referral pathways
- enhance local professional development opportunities
- share your skills and expertise.

MHPN provides networks with funding and administration support from a dedicated MHPN project officer, plus access to resources sourced through the Heart Foundation.

What you need to do
1. Click here to register your interest in starting a practitioner network in your local area with a focus on coronary heart disease and mental health. If the hyperlink doesn’t open, copy and paste the following address into a web browser to access the survey: https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/G9KLXDL
2. Forward the survey link on to any colleagues you think may be interested in this opportunity.

An MHPN project officer will then get in touch to discuss the next steps.

If you would like more information or have a question, please contact MHPN Senior Project Officer Lauren Tyrrell on 03 8662 6627 or l.tyrrell@mhpn.org.au.