

# News Release:

## QNI holds first dedicated conference for nurse partners



The Queen's  
*Nursing Institute*

**29 January 2010**

Community nursing charity the Queen's Nursing Institute will hold its first ever event specifically aimed at nurse partners shortly. The one day conference will be held on 11 March 2010 at the Greater Manchester Centre for Voluntary Organisations. It is aimed at both current nurse partners and those who are considering becoming partners.

The conference will address a number of practical issues connected with nurse partnership, as well as providing a general overview of the possibilities that are now open to nurses in this area. Specific areas to be covered include tax and related financial issues, negotiating profit share, making the case for nurse partnership to GPs and engaging commissioners. The keynote speech by Professor Jane Salvage, a former editor of Nursing Times and now an independent nursing consultant, will focus on the opportunities for nurses to take control of their future.

Rosemary Cook, Director of the QNI said, "There are now more than 300 nurses on our nurse partners network – some already partners, some planning to become partners in the future - so there is clearly a huge amount of interest in this subject. The QNI has been providing information and networking for nurse partners since 2005, and we are delighted to be able to bring people together to build on this."

Other speakers at the event include Catherine Baraniak OBE, a founding partner of one of the first nurse-led practices; Vicky Bailey, General Manager of Principia and a trustee of the QNI; and Nicola Walsh, a Director of PricewaterhouseCoopers and also a trustee of the QNI.

Delegates will also hear from a panel of nurse partners, including Sue Nutbrown, Linda Pickering, Alison Crumbie and Wendy Fairhurst, who will share the benefits of their business experience.

Wendy Fairhurst, a partner in the Marus Bridge Practice in Wigan, is keen encourage more nurses to consider going into partnership in general practice. She said: "Being a partner in General Practice provides benefits from a personal job satisfaction point of view, from a business and organisational point of view and places a nursing view at the heart of decision making which in turn leads to benefits for patients and healthcare more widely".

Ms Cook added: "This is going to be a very exciting day. I hope it will be a real help to nurses who have thought about being a partner but wondered where to start."

**ENDS**

### Notes to Editors

1. The QNI has operated a Nurse Partners network since 2005. The network is aimed at community nurses who are, or who are considering becoming, partners with General Practitioners. The QNI is now seeking to draw new nurses to the network and to offer more support to members.
2. The event is sponsored by a grant from The E.L. Rathbone Charitable Trust, enabling the QNI to limit the individual delegate rate to £40.
3. The conference will be held at the Greater Manchester Centre for Voluntary Organisations (GMCVO), St Thomas Centre, Ardwick Green North, Manchester M12 6FZ.
4. A full programme can be downloaded here: <http://www.qni.org.uk/nurses-in-business/nurse-partners-network.html> and booking information is available from Anne Pearson, Practice Development Manager, on 020 7549 1400 or email [anne.pearson@qni.org.uk](mailto:anne.pearson@qni.org.uk) .