

Faculty

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Introductory Course in Diving Medicine



The Navy Hospital
Devonport

Introductory Course In Diving Medicine

This course is specifically designed for General Practitioners with an interest in diving and hyperbaric medicine. The focus is on diving medicine and emphasis is placed on the practical issues likely to be encountered by GPs. Extensive pre-course reading material will be provided.

The Navy Hospital Hyperbaric Unit assesses and treats most of the diving-related injuries occurring in New Zealand. In-patient care is provided in the adjacent Navy Hospital.

The number of injured divers treated at the HBU has ranged from 80 to 30 per year over the past five years.



Objectives

- To provide GPs with sufficient evidence-based knowledge of Diving Medicine to feel confident in assessing fitness to dive.
- To increase the number of GPs qualified to perform OSH approved commercial dive medicals. Successful participants will be entered on the register of Designated Dive Doctors
- To enable GPs to assess, treat and appropriately refer patients with diving related injuries.

Topics Covered

This comprehensive introduction to Diving Medicine includes the following topics:

- Diving equipment and Emergency Services
- An in-chamber 50m dive experience
- The physics of diving
- Gas toxicities
- Decompression Illness and Cerebral Artery Gas Embolism
- The principles of HBO and the use of Treatment Tables
- Barotrauma
- Assessment and certification of fitness to dive
- Epidemiology of diving accidents
- Initial management of diving accidents
- Hypothermia and near-drowning
- Dive tables and computers



Course Details

The course:

- runs for 4 days including a weekend so as to minimise disruption to the GP's working week.
- is held at the Navy Hospital, Devonport, the site of one of the two hyperbaric chambers in NZ qualified to deal with diving emergencies (the other being in Christchurch).
- is recognised by the NZ Dept of Labour (OSH) and the UK Health and Safety Executive, so successful participants are qualified to complete commercial diving medical examinations.
- is approved by RNZCGP for 40 credits AVE/MOPS.

Any participants requiring accommodation in Auckland should contact PA to the Director of Naval Medicine for details.

Application Form

Please mail this form if you are interested in enrolling for this course

Do you wish to apply to participate in this course?

Yes. Deposit included

Yes. Deposit to follow

If unsuccessful due to number limit, do you wish to be placed on a wait list?

Yes

No

Notes:

1. The cost of the course is \$850 (incl GST). A deposit of \$150 is required to guarantee entry to the course. Please make cheques payable to **NZ Defence Force – Navy**. You will be notified about the status of your application upon receipt of your application form.
2. Receipts will be provided.
3. The course is limited to 15 participants. Another 10 applicants will be wait listed if they so request. Wait list applicants will have any deposit refunded on request or no later than two weeks prior to the start of the course if the application is unsuccessful.
4. Successful applicants may withdraw from the course without penalty up to six weeks prior to the start of the course. After that a late withdrawal fee of \$150 will apply.
5. The balance of any money owing **MUST** be paid by six weeks prior to the start of the course or the applicant will be downgraded to the wait list and replaced from that list.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone / email _____

Return to: PA to the Director of Naval Medicine
Naval Base
Private Bag 32 901
AUCKLAND

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