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## MEDIA RELEASE

**Tuesday April 29, 2008**  
**For immediate release**

### **Filling gaps in GPs prescribing practice: Adelaide general practitioner awarded prestigious national Fellowship**

Assisting general practitioners to choose the most useful information source for prescribing decisions is the goal of Dr Peter Mansfield, who has just received a NICS Fellowship from the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC), co-sponsored by Therapeutic Guidelines Limited (TGL).

Dr Mansfield, an Adelaide GP, will use the NICS-TGL Fellowship to undertake a two-year implementation project to develop an interactive and educational website which will allow GPs to critically evaluate information from both drug companies and the independent information from Therapeutic Guidelines.

“One of the best ways to improve medical care is to encourage health professionals to take evidence-based clinical practice guidelines into account,” explains Dr Mansfield.

“While guidelines are underused in many areas of medicine, including prescribing practice, most GPs are exposed to drug promotions. Through my NICS-TGL Fellowship, I’ll be able to provide GPs with an easy and accessible means of comparing information from these sources and this will help ensure their prescribing decisions are based on best evidence.”

NHMRC Chief Executive Officer, Professor Warwick Anderson has welcomed this opportunity. “We congratulate Dr Mansfield and look forward to working with TGL. Our partnership with organisations involved in specific areas of health care, allows us to harness our combined skills and knowledge to provide the highest level of support to our Fellows.”

Dr Mansfield will join nine other health professionals from Victoria, South Australia, New South Wales, Queensland and Western Australia as 2008 NICS Fellows.

Release ends.

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For more information about the other NICS Fellows and the NICS Leadership Program :  
[www.nhmrc.gov.au/nics](http://www.nhmrc.gov.au/nics)

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## **Note to editors**

**The National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC)** is Australia's peak body for supporting health and medical research. As part of the NHMRC, the National Institute of Clinical Studies (NICS) works to improve health care by getting health and medical research into practice.

The NICS Leadership program, which was launched in 2003, directly contributes to closing evidence-practice gaps by supporting health professionals to undertake practical projects that aim to improve health outcomes for people by getting high quality evidence into everyday clinical practice in particular health settings.

The two-year, part-time Fellowships are open to early- to mid-career health professionals across the health care spectrum, including doctors, nurses, allied health professionals, paramedics, health care managers, and policy makers.

The Fellowships provide an annual stipend as well as professional development opportunities, training programs in evidence implementation, mentorship, and opportunities to network with and learn from world-class experts who come to Australia as part of NICS' Visiting Experts program.

Applications for NICS Fellowships 2009 open at the end of May 2008.

**Therapeutic Guidelines Limited:** Therapeutic Guidelines Limited is an independent not-for-profit organisation dedicated to developing guidelines for therapy from the latest world literature, interpreted and distilled by Australia's most eminent and respected experts.

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