

## **Goulburn Valley Falls Prevention Conference 2007**

The Falls Prevention Conference was held on June 5<sup>th</sup> at the Country Comfort Parklake and was attended by 74 people from the Goulburn Valley and surrounding areas. The Conference presented a wide range of information regarding falls in the community, acute and residential settings.

The Conference was opened with guest speaker Keith Hill from National Ageing Research Institute who presented on the magnitude of the problem of falls among older people, factors associated with falls, early identification of risk, evidence of what works in falls prevention and the factors influencing outcomes. Vicki Davis presented on the Falls Risk Assessment Tool developed by Peninsula Health. Jemage Healthcare introduced the INVISA-BEAM bed sensor which is designed to reduce falls from bed by alerting staff when a person is beginning to get out of bed. Sanicare displayed the new Soft-Hip hip protector and Goulburn Valley Health Supplies were present to display a range of helpful products.

Barb Crawford from Goulburn Valley Community Health Service presented the Slips, Trips and Falls Environmental Audit that is used to identify fall risk factors in the workplace from the front gate to the back door for staff and consumers. Anne Ryan from Alzheimer's Australia provided insight into dementia and why people with dementia fall. John Ware from the Goulburn Valley General Practices presented on medications related to falls and the Home Medicine Review.

The Conference was held as the completion of the Goulburn Valley Primary Care Partnership Community Base Falls Prevention Project. For more information regarding the conference please go to [www.gvpcp.org.au](http://www.gvpcp.org.au)