

# Simple test allays miscarriage fears

A TEST which can predict the chances of a pregnant woman miscarrying from six weeks has been developed by a Sydney doctor.

Associate Professor George Condous designed the test, which is about 80 per cent accurate, to reassure women their pregnancy is progressing well.

Professor Condous used data from more than 400 women who visited the early pregnancy unit at Nepean Hospital. Working with a team of Sydney University researchers, Dr Condous used information such as previous caesarean births and miscarriages combined with details from the first ultrasound scan.

He combined them in a mathematical process - comparing variables - to come up with the formula.

Until now there was no test to identify if a woman would miscarry in the first 12-week trimester.

Omni Gynaecological Care Centre director Dr Condous said yesterday: "The No. 1 question pregnant women always ask me is what are their chances of miscarriage. At the moment I can't tell them."

The second stage of clinical trials



Happy image ... Professor George Condous performs an ultrasound on Suzanne Murphy. Source: The Daily Telegraph

is about to begin at Nepean Hospital, where he will compare data on another 400 women. By the start of next year, Dr Condous hopes he can use the test on women who present for an ultrasound for the first time.

"There is still a lot of work to be done on this but I believe it can be effective," he said. "I don't know how women will react to it."

"This would probably be more ideal for a woman who presents for her

first visit early in the pregnancy.

"If a woman was deemed to be at risk of miscarriage, we could then see them more regularly for scanning and monitor their progress, rather than leave it six weeks for another scan."

An average one in four pregnancies result in miscarriage.

By Kate Sikora  
From: The Daily Telegraph



## Equipping migrants and refugees with employment skills

English language education provider ACL is equipping new migrants and refugees with skills to improve their employment prospects.

ACL is one of the largest providers of English language education, settlement services and training programs in Australia. Courses in childcare, security, warehousing, hospitality and business administration are being taught to migrants and refugees at ACL Colleges across metropolitan Sydney. ACL Government Programs General Manager Michael Cox said the 10-week courses are proving very popular and will continue well into 2010.

"Through our Employment Pathways Program we are assisting migrants and refugees into employment, training and further study," Mr Cox said.

"We teach employability skills and training within our English language programs including the English language associated with particular industries to help prepare them for employment."

"The courses incorporate a practical component which gives them a genuine idea of the workplace environment as well as training in the hands-on skills they will require," he said.

The Kitchen Hand/Cleaning course, based at the ACL Auburn College, has proved extremely popular - preparing students for work as a kitchen hand or in the cleaning industry. The students have been attending practical classes at the Regents Park Community Kitchen where they have learnt food preparation skills, cleaning and hygiene requirements and OH&S responsibilities in the workplace.

Mr Cox said ACL is focussed on preparing new migrants and refugees with workplace skills and knowledge and also assisting them to build their life in Australia which is enriched through social participation and contribution to the community.

"ACL has taught English language programs to more than 100,000 migrants and refugees since 1998 through the Adult Migrant English Program (AMEP) and settled more than 11,180 refugees and humanitarian entrants through the Integrated Humanitarian Settlement Strategy (IHSS) since 2005," he said.

# GREEK TAVERNA NIGHT AT DOLTONE HOUSE!

Spice up your spring social calendar with a fun-filled night of dance, comedy, and authentic Greek cuisine.

October 9 will see Doltone House Sylvania Water transformed into an authentic Greek haven for a night of Greek-inspired entertainment. Guest comedian George Kapiniaris (Underbelly, Acropolis Now, Wogs out of Work, II Dago) promises to bring the house down with a one-off stand up comedy act. He will be supported by vibrant Bouzouki player Tommy T, who is sure to get guests to their feet with his energetic live performance. Greek DJ Jimmy V will



**Greek Taverna Night**  
Doltone House - Sylvania Waters  
Dinner / Dance / Laugh at Guest Comedian George Kapiniaris  
Friday 9th October 09  
Doors open 6.30pm / dinner at 7.30pm  
**\$65 per adult**  
(Strictly 18 years & over)  
• Mezze per table - pita bread / dips / salad / olives  
• Main course - lamb served with garlic & rosemary sauce / seasoned mashed potatoes / greens  
• Soft drinks included  
• Beer / wine / spirits at club prices  
Entertainment for the night  
Stand up act by George Kapiniaris (Star of Acropolis Now / II Dago / Wogs out of work / Underbelly)  
Live Bouzouki Player Tommy T  
Greek DJ - Jimmy V (dance the night away with Greek music & 80's funk)  
Bookings essential - discount for table of 10 booking \$60 pp)  
Inquiries phone 8543 6000 or email sylvaniawaters@doltonehouse.com.au

round off the evening with his fun, upbeat mix of Greek music and 80's funk.

World-class event centre Doltone House is renowned for producing an exceptional standard of international cuisine, and the Greek Taverna Night will be no exception. The traditional Greek fare on offer, from Mezze platters to succulent, seasoned Lamb, will undoubtedly add to what will be a truly memorable Greek event experience.

Tickets for Greek Taverna Night are \$65 each, with

a discount available for bookings of 10 (\$60pp). The event is strictly R18 and bookings are essential! For inquiries please phone 8543 6000 or email sylvaniawaters@doltonehouse.com.au

Sylvania Waters Doltone House is located at:  
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