



Nursing and Midwifery Matters

what matters to you, matters to us.....

January 2008—Issue 6

Welcome to the first edition of the South Australian Nursing and Midwifery newsletter for 2008.

There have been many changes over the past 12 months in health, which has helped mould the foundation stones and the direction for nurses and midwives over the next couple of years.

The work that has been done and the many initiatives that are part of our journey for 2008 will assist us in achieving our sense of purpose for nursing and midwifery. This will ensure improved patient/client outcomes through us constantly improving the way we do our business and working towards

excellence in practice across all areas. An important part is having a nursing & midwifery workforce that is acknowledged for their professionalism, their pivotal role in Healthcare and being an essential member of the health care team.

I had the privilege to meet with Julianne Siggins (Southern Public Programs Divisional Director, RDNS) and some members of the Southern Public Programs RDNS team. Julianne also facilitated the opportunity for me to work with Hilary Ashby (Team Leader of Team 4, Southern Public Programs) for the morning. I was impressed by the teams professionalism and in particular, I noted their emphasis on the importance of client

assessment and documentation. I really value the chance to work with clinical nurses in their areas of expertise.

I know that during 2008 there will be many challenges and opportunities that the nursing and midwifery professions will face. I look forward to working with the professions to pave the paths for this journey.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your family a happy and safe 2008.

Regards
Jenny



Photo: Jenny Beutel

Career Structure Implementation Project ...

The new Clinical Nurse/Midwife Level 2 classification is operative from 1 March 2008 and can only be accessed via application for personal reclassification Guidelines for Personal Reclassification to the new Clinical Nurse/Midwife Level 2 role have been developed and will be released and available soon. These guidelines are designed to assist Registered Nurses/Midwives in the preparation of their application and the collation of the supporting evidence of how criteria are met.

In addition information on this process and updates on the Nursing and Midwifery Career Structure Implementation project are detailed via the **'Career Structure & You'** newsletters available at www.nursingsa.com/prof_career.php.

The first edition of the **'Career Structure & You'** outlined the Career Structure Implementation project and the roles of the Career Structure Implementation Central Guidance Group and Nurses & Midwives in the process.

The second edition newsletter contained

information about the Clinical Nurse/Midwife Level 2 role and the Associate Clinical Services Coordinator role.

The third edition, to be released in conjunction with the guidelines, will provide an outline of the reclassification process and will herald the release of the Personal Reclassification Guidelines.

Local health sites/services and the Australian Nurses Federation, South Australian Branch (ANF) are planning information session on the reclassification process.

Nominations for the 2008 Nursing and Midwifery Excellence Awards ...

The Department of Health, in conjunction with industry partners, invites you to nominate nurses and midwives who demonstrate exceptional practice, professionalism and engagement with the professions and the community in the categories:

- Metropolitan Clinical Practice (RN/RM);
- Metropolitan Clinical Practice (EN);
- Rural and Remote Clinical Practice (RN/RM);
- Rural and Remote Clinical Practice (EN);
- Team Clinical Practice (RN/RM/EN);
- Aboriginal Health Care (RN/RM/EN);
- Future Leader (RN/RM);
- Education (RN/RM);
- Research (RN/RM); and
- Leadership (RN/RM).



Photo: 2007 Award Recipients

The Nomination Form for the 2008 Nursing and Midwifery Excellence Awards is available at www.nursingsa.com/office_awards.php

Statewide Clinical Networks Website ...

The Statewide Clinical Networks have been established to increase the level of clinicians' involvement in the planning of health services, to find ways to better coordinate delivery of those services, to ensure better health outcomes for all South Australians and to ensure a strong, sustainable health workforce.

The first Clinical Networks and Network Chairpersons are:

- **Cancer** - Associate Professor Brenda Wilson
- **Cardiology** - Professor Paddy Phillips
- **Child Health** - Dr Cathy Sanders
- **Maternal & Neonatal** - Professor Jeffrey Robinson
- **Mental Health** - Associate Professor Norman James
- **Orthopaedic** - Dr Christopher Cain
- **Rehabilitation** - Ms Judy Smith
- **Renal** - Professor Graeme Russ

The website for the Statewide Clinical Networks provides an overview of the Networks and contains information on the first eight Networks including membership. Additional information includes reports and newsletters. Information will be updated regularly to keep health professionals and the community informed on the progress of the Networks.

If you would like further information about any of the Statewide Clinical Networks please visit www.health.sa.gov.au/clinicalnetworks or email clinicalnetworks@health.sa.gov.au.



Wash, Wipe Cover - Don't Infect another! hand & respiratory hygiene resource kit ...

2008 will see the release of the **Wash, Wipe, Cover – Don't infect another!** educational kit. This invaluable resource package will encourage better personal hand and respiratory hygiene practice within the Health Care industry, general community, and the Government. The resource kit has been funded through Safety and Quality.



Hand hygiene is being recognised world wide as one of the most effective hygiene practices to reduce infection by common disease organisms. This increased awareness has stemmed significantly from the threat of a pandemic influenza.

The World Health Organisation (WHO) has recognised the importance of hand hygiene practice amongst health workers. As a result they have issued "The WHO Guidelines on Hand Hygiene in Healthcare".

By providing a clinically correct, readily accessible and practical educative resource kit, **Wash, Wipe, Cover – Don't infect**

another! has addressed a very real need to raise awareness about reducing the transmission of respiratory and gastrointestinal disease within key sectors of the South Australian community.

The kit is intended for release prior to May 2008 to prepare for the annual flu season and associated immunisation programs and will be available both on CD and online at www.health.sa.gov.au/infectioncontrol

For further information please contact Project Officer, Neil Charter at neil.charter@health.sa.gov.au Infection Control Service.

The Centre for Allied Health Evidence (CAHE) ...

The December 2007 edition of the CAHE newsletter features information on the **four new CAHE Outcomes Calculators**. After seven years of painstaking research, design and programming CAHE is now offering the world renowned Outcomes Calculators on one CD, complete with software compatibility programs and CAHE OC User Manuals.

The four OCs available are:

- CAHE Musculoskeletal Outcomes Calculator (revised and re-launched);
- CAHE Incontinence Outcomes Calculator;
- CAHE Neurological Disorders Outcomes Calculator; and
- CAHE Chronic Disease Management Outcomes Calculator.

To order a copy of the CAHE OC CD-ROM please visit the CAHE website at www.unisa.edu.au/cahe/CAHEOCs/default.asp.

For further information on the **Centre for Allied Health Evidence** please visit www.unisa.edu.au/cahe/default.asp.

World Health Organization (WHO) Collaborating Centre for Patient Safety ...

WHO Collaborating Centre for Patient Safety and the WHO World Alliance for Patient Safety have invited comments on five proposed, potentially life-saving Patient Safety Solutions that have been selected as priorities by the Collaborating Centre's International Steering Committee. This activity represents the "Solutions" program of the WHO World Alliance for Patient Safety, which translates knowledge about patient safety interventions into practical solutions for use by the global community.

The electronic Patient Safety Solutions survey will be available online until February 29, 2008 at www.icpatientsafety.org/survey

This new set of Patient Safety Solutions addresses the following challenges:

- Prevention of patient falls;
- Prevention of pressure ulcers;
- Response to the deteriorating patient;
- Communication of critical test results; and
- *Prevention of bloodstream infections associated with central lines.*

The intent of these Solutions and others that have been issued previously is to guide the re-design of patient care processes to prevent inevitable human errors from actually reaching patients.

The first set of Patient Safety Solutions was launched earlier this year. These Solutions

addressed the issues of look-alike, sound-alike medications; correct patient identification; hand-over communications; wrong-site, wrong-patient surgery; use of concentrated electrolyte solutions; medication reconciliation; catheter and tubing misconnections; needle reuse and injection safety; and hand hygiene.

Questions about the survey can be addressed to Gerry Castro, project director, Joint Commission International Center for Patient Safety at gcastro@jointcommission.org. For more information about the Patient Safety Solutions project, please visit www.icpatientsafety.org.

Upcoming Conferences ...

National Forum on Safety and Quality in Health Care

The National Forum on Safety and Quality in Health Care is being held 29-31 October 2008 at the Adelaide Convention Centre. Please contact Annabel Holliss with any questions by telephone to (08) 8274 6050 or by e-mail to aholliss@sapmea.asn.au. Registration forms and further information is available at www.sapmea.asn.au/conventions/forumsqhc2008/index.html

CSHISC Making A Difference...2008 Conference

The Community Services and Health Industry Skills Council (CSHISC) titled **Making A Difference...2008** Conference will be held on 15-16 October 2008 at the Adelaide Hilton in South Australia. Register your interest at www.cshisc.com.au/conference/

3rd National Conference for Emergency Nurses

The 3rd National Conference for Emergency Nurses titled **Networking: Crossing borders** and will be held 28 – 30 August 2008 at the Sheraton Perth Hotel, Western Australia. Registration forms and further information is available at www.cdesigne.com.au/cena2008

4th Australasian Redesigning Health Care Summit

The conference titled **Continuously improving the patient journey** and is being held 5-6 March 2008 at the Melbourne Cricket Ground, Melbourne, Victoria. Registration forms and further information is available at www.redesignhealth2008.org