

Nursing and Midwifery Matters

What matters to you, matters to us

Welcome to the December edition of the nursing and midwifery newsletter.

It is hard to believe that another year is coming to an end. 2010 has been a year of significant change and achievement and this is a good time to reflect and celebrate.

The SA Health Awards celebration was held on Friday 19th November 2010. The awards pay tribute to the individuals, teams, projects and programs that have made outstanding improvements to the delivery of public health services for the South Australian community.

The nursing and midwifery professions were well represented in the finalists and recipients in the ten award categories. Congratulations to Marion Eckert and her team for winning the Excellence in Non-Clinical Services Award in the SA Health Awards for The Health Journey of e-Learning Programs for all Staff, Kevin Hardy and team for winning the Improving Community Wellbeing Award for the End of Life Choices Program, Sharon Phillis and Cathie West for winning the Enhancing Hospital Care Award for the Early Recognition, Rapid Response, Good Outcome project, Trudy Vaughan and Elizabeth Weaver for winning the Building and Strengthening Partnerships Award for the Respecting Patients Choices Program and Tracey Siebert and her team for Ensuring Safety of Mental Health Consumers in Extreme Heat Conditions - A System Approach. I want to also congratulate all the nurses and midwives involved in all the projects and programs showcased as finalists and recipients of the SA Health Awards.




I am pleased to announce that nominations are again open for the Nursing and Midwifery Excellence Awards for 2011. These awards are unique to South Australia and recognise the contribution and achievement of nurses and midwives to their professions and the health outcomes of the South Australia community. Nurses and Midwives across this state work tirelessly and their commitment often goes unnoticed. I would encourage you all to take time to consider the nurses and midwives that have demonstrated excellence in practice that should have their efforts acknowledged through a nomination for a Nursing and Midwifery Excellence Awards. Nominations close on 4 February 2011 and nomination forms can be accessed at the Nursing and Midwifery website – www.nursingsa.com.

As we enter the festive season I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a happy, safe festive season.

Regards

Jenny





Transition to Practice Program for Mental Health and Drug and Alcohol Nurses

The Transition to Practice Program for Mental Health and Drug and Alcohol Nurses is designed to provide clear explanation of the roles and responsibilities of the mental health service, the transitioning nurse and key personnel who are pivotal to the success of the program.

The learning journey within the Transition to Practice Program will enable the Transitioning Nurse to increase clinical confidence, consolidate knowledge and engage in reflective practice. This development is supported by Clinical Facilitators and Clinical Supervisors and ongoing exposure to the clinical environment.

Processes to support a positive learning environment include:

- A comprehensive orientation to your workplace
- Regular and timely Clinical Supervision
- The allocation of experienced Clinical Support Facilitators through out clinical rotations
- Professional development days scheduled throughout the program.

The third annual Transition to Practice Program will commence in March 2011.

Applications from state-wide Mental Health and Drug & Alcohol Services South Australia's (DASSA) Services are now welcomed from graduate mental health nurses, or Mental Health Nurses new to Australia.

To find out more about the application process and the program go to:

http://www.nursingsa.com/nursing_grad-mw.php

National Registration and Accreditation Scheme

The following information relates to the changes associated with the move to the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (NRAS) on July 1st 2010 and is accurate as at

the time of publication.

Registration as both an Enrolled Nurse (EN) and Registered Nurse (RN)

As part of their consultation process the NMBA sought feedback on the provision for nurses to hold both registration as an enrolled nurse and as a registered nurse at the same time. The period of consultation was from 17 August 2010 to 1 September 2010.

As it currently stands a person can hold registration as both an EN and RN in accordance with s.222 of the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Act 2009 ("National Law"). On the register of nurses there are two divisions; division 1(RN) and division 2(EN). As there are two divisions on the register of nurses a person is entitled to hold registration in both divisions.

NMBA is yet to provide a decision with respect to the feedback they received regarding the consultation period. Until NMBA provides a statement regarding this issue the advice that can be provided to stakeholders is in accordance with the Health Practitioners National Law section 222.

Prescribing for Endorsed Midwives and Nurse Practitioners

Changes need to be made to the Controlled Substances Act 1984 (SA) to authorise nurse practitioners to prescribe Schedule 8 drugs and midwives whose registration is endorsed under section 94 of the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law to prescribe schedule 4 and schedule 8 drugs.

The changes to the Act are in progress. The Controlled Substances (Therapeutic Goods and Other Matters) Amendment Bill 2010 was passed by the House of Assembly and introduced into the Legislative Council on 23 November 2010. Parliament will not sit again until the end of February or start of March. Once the Bill is passed by Parliament there will then need to be amendments to the Controlled Substances (Poisons) Regulations 1996.

More information will be made available when the amendments have been finalised.

How do I contact the AHPRA or NMBA?

The Australia Health Practitioner Regulation Agency has an office in South Australia.

Postal Address

AHPRA
G.P.O. Box 9958
Adelaide SA 5001

Office Location

Level 8, 121 King William Street
Adelaide SA 5000

The office contact numbers is:

General enquiries: 1300 419 495

Office hours are 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday.

For up to date information visit the NMBA website:

<http://www.nursingmidwiferyboard.gov.au/>.

The Nursing and Midwifery Office has received many enquiries regarding AHPRA matters such as Registration. To receive the most recent and accurate advice Nurses and Midwives should direct these enquires to AHPRA as above.

Guidelines for the Declaration of Life Extinct by Registered Nurses and Midwives.

Following extensive consultation and involvement of key stakeholders the guideline for the assessment and declaration of life extinct by registered nurses and midwives in the absence of a medical practitioner where patients die in a hospital, health centre, nursing home, hostel or at home has been approved and released.

This guideline will be used by public sector hospitals and health centres (incorporated under the South Australian Health Care Act 2008) and does not negate the need for certification of death to be undertaken by a medical practitioner.

Public sector employees can access the guidelines via the SA Health intranet

<http://inside.sahealth.sa.gov.au>.

For non public sector employee interested in obtaining more information on the guidelines contact the Nursing and Midwifery Office on ph 8226 0749 or email nursing@health.sa.gov.au

Nursing and Midwifery Clinical Placement for 2011

What's happening with Clinical Placements?

There is a new integrated system which matches clinical placement bookings and availability in nursing and midwifery. This has reduced the constant requests wards/units used to receive from education providers.



There are more than 4500 nursing and midwifery students undertaking clinical placements each year. We are always looking for more placements – let us know if you think your work area could take some or more students.

Student numbers are increasing because of a number of changes in the education sector and anticipated workforce requirements.

A new single Memorandum of Agreement will cover all SA Health units and all education providers in 2011. This will make the “rules” of clinical placement clearer for everyone.

We are actively working on providing more organised and visible support for clinicians and students with the use of clinical facilitators who may come from the university or from your local health service.

Historically there has been little or no clinical facilitator support for enrolled nurse students so we are negotiating to increase these roles in the VET sector.

Thanks to you all for your work with students. Public and private sectors, metro and country, acute, community, mental health and aged care: every sector is taking their share and providing placements.

All clinicians are likely to have students with them – the more they learn from each of you, the better prepared they will be when they graduate. Show them what you are doing and always remember to explain why you are doing it!



Public Sector Nursing & Midwifery Enterprise Agreement

SA Health and the ANMF have reached in principle agreement on the terms and conditions for the new Nursing/Midwifery (South Australian Public Sector) Enterprise Agreement 2010.

In accordance with the requirements of the Fair Work Act 1994, employees were given the opportunity to vote on a proposed Enterprise Agreement for nursing and midwifery employees in South Australia's public sector. The ballot closed 12pm Monday 29 November 2010.

The ballot process resulted in 91% of employees who voted during the ballot, voting in favour of the new Nursing/Midwifery (South Australian Public Sector) Enterprise Agreement 2010.

To view the proposed Agreement and explanatory notes visit

<http://www.health.sa.gov.au/nmeb>

Upcoming events and conferences

A New Direction for Change Management

Philippa Robinson and Robin Davis are two internationally recognised change consultants, and will be visiting Australasia in late February March 2011. The Master Class tour will be hosted by Change Champions P/L under an exclusive agency agreement.

For information on the Master Class tour including the learning objectives, topics, presenter biographies and prices visit;

<http://www.changechampions.com.au/>

Trauma Nursing Core Courses 2011

The magnitude of trauma as a national problem is documented by data that identifies injury as the primary cause of death in people under the age of 45.

Realising the impact of trauma in Australia and

the positive contribution of professional nurses in the care of trauma patients, the Australian College of Emergency Nursing has acquired the sole distribution rights to the Trauma Nursing Core Course (TNCC) as developed by the Emergency Nurses Association USA.

The provider course conducted over a two day period, offers competency based trauma knowledge and psychomotor skills associated with the delivery of professional nursing care to the trauma patient.

Three courses are scheduled in South Australia for 2011. For more information go to

<http://www.acen.com.au/courses/>

Improving Patient Flow

15 & 16 February 201: Mercure Melbourne, Spring Street, Melbourne

Whole system approaches for managing capacity and demand.

The benefits of attending:

- Uncover advanced strategies to manage patients within a whole of system approach
- Learn best practice clinical audit strategies to balance efficiency and effectiveness
- Assess which governance frameworks best support patient flow targets within local contexts
- Hear case studies demonstrating how to effectively manage change processes and engage stakeholders along the patient journey

For more information go to:

<http://www.improvingpatientflow.com/>

For more information

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