

# Nursing and Midwifery Matters

## What matters to you, matters to us.



Jenny Beutel

Welcome to the June/July edition of the Nursing and Midwifery newsletter.

Since the last newsletter much has happened as is outlined in the rest of the newsletter. I would like to thank all those who have enabled us to meet the timeframes for the implementation of the new career structure. I am aware this has been a busy and demanding time with the many other activities happening across the state at the same time. In particular, I would like to thank the members of the Career Structure Implementation Central Guidance Group (CSICGG) and Julie Brown, Principal Project Nursing and Midwifery, Career Structure Implementation.

The Career Structure Implementation Project has been completed and the contact for all nursing and midwifery career structure issues or clarification is your local/regional Director of Nursing and Midwifery, and your local/regional Human Resource Services Department.

As I post my Annual Renewal of Practising Certificate to the Nurses Board of South Australia, I would remind all nurses and midwives that the **nbsa** requires all completed applications to be returned by post no later than close of business on **Thursday, 31 July 2008**.

The Nursing and Midwifery Office is working with your Nursing and Midwifery Leaders in streamlining the reporting framework for the ongoing requirements for *Delivering the Future: building a valued and sustainable nursing and midwifery workforce 2008–2011* and *Aboriginal Nursing and Midwifery Strategy 2008–2011*.

It is important that every nurse and midwife is aware of the *Delivering the Future* and *Aboriginal Nursing and Midwifery Strategies* so we can all work together in achieving a workplace of choice, excellence in practice at all levels and a skilled nursing and midwifery workforce that meets our communities health care needs.

I look forward to working in partnership with you to achieve our objectives.

Regards

**Jenny Beutel**  
Chief Nurse  
Nursing and Midwifery Office

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## Nursing and midwifery strategic plans available

*Delivering the Future: building a valued and sustainable nursing and midwifery workforce 2008–2011* and *Aboriginal Nursing and Midwifery Strategy 2008–2011* were launched during International Midwives and Nurses Week celebrations.

*Delivering the Future* is our wide ranging response to the South Australian Health Care Plan and responds to the continuing challenges facing our public health system to retain, attract and recruit skilled nurses and midwives. Nurses and midwives have contributed to the development of this plan. It is a plan for the long term but it means acting now to secure a sustainable future for our workforce and ongoing quality health care for the people we serve. *Delivering the Future's* agenda for reform has five key objectives:

- > for our clients and community — a nursing and midwifery workforce that is responsive to changing community needs
- > for our nursing and midwifery workforce — sustaining capabilities through opportunities for learning and development
- > for our leaders — building leadership capabilities that take us forward
- > for our work places — creating workplaces where people want to work
- > for our partners — working collaboratively to develop a better future.

*Delivering the Future* seeks to implement changes in the workplace to create the conditions and culture for workforce sustainability, including safe and harmonious work environments.

The *Aboriginal Nursing and Midwifery Strategy 2008–2011* will work towards specific actions addressing key result areas to build a sustainable Aboriginal nursing and midwifery workforce. The strategy will strive to achieve improved educational, training and cultural standards across its lifespan and ensure supportive workplaces for Aboriginal nurses and midwives.

Your Nursing and Midwifery Regional and Health Service Leaders are now in the process of aligning your organisations nursing and midwifery action plans/work plans to the outcomes and the objectives of the *Delivering the Future: building a valued and sustainable nursing and midwifery workforce 2008–2011* and *Aboriginal Nursing and Midwifery Strategy 2008–2011*.

*Delivering the Future: building a valued and sustainable nursing and midwifery workforce 2008–2011* and *Aboriginal Nursing and Midwifery Strategy 2008–2011* are now available at [www.nursingsa.com/office\\_pub.php](http://www.nursingsa.com/office_pub.php).

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## Nursing in general practice

The Australian Practice Nurses Association is a professional association run by practice nurses for practice nurses and provides representation, support and networking for practice nurses at national, state and local levels. In South Australia practice nurses are supported within 14 divisions of general practice. The South Australian Divisions of General Practice Inc (SADI) has a Nursing in General Practice Program and a program leader who can be contacted on 8271 8988 or by e-mail to [sadi@sadi.org.au](mailto:sadi@sadi.org.au).

## Access the new *Guide to Management of Hypertension 2008*

The Heart Foundation has updated and reformatted guidelines that are designed to help health professionals, particularly those working in general practice, to identify and manage their patients with high blood pressure appropriately, according to the latest recommendations and evidence from clinical trials. Key changes to recommendations for practice are which medicines to use in the initial treatment of hypertension and what blood pressure targets to aim for in various patient groups.

A copy of the quick reference guide is now available at [www.heartfoundation.org.au/Professional\\_Information/Clinical\\_Practice/Hypertension.htm](http://www.heartfoundation.org.au/Professional_Information/Clinical_Practice/Hypertension.htm). A full copy of the guide will be available later this month.

## Filling gaps in palliative care: Adelaide nurse awarded prestigious national fellowship



Wendy Jansen

Improving the quality of palliative (end of life) care services to all terminally ill patients in hospital is the goal of Ms Wendy Jansen, who has just received a National Institute of Clinical Studies (NICS) Fellowship from the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC), co-sponsored by the South Australia Health Nursing and Midwifery Office.

Ms Jansen, a Palliative Care Clinical Practice Consultant at Lyell McEwin Hospital in Adelaide, will use the NICS Fellowship to undertake a two-year implementation project to introduce best practice in palliative care in specialist areas which lie outside the palliative care unit.

"Palliative care provides relief from symptoms for people in the last stages of life. It integrates the psychological and spiritual aspects of care and offers a support system to families. But terminally ill patients are not necessarily inpatients in a palliative care unit, so the level of palliative care they receive can vary," explains Ms Jansen.

"The Liverpool End-of-Life Care Pathway is a guide to best practice in palliative care and by ensuring all hospital areas have access to the knowledge this guide provides, we will be able to ensure terminally ill patients receive optimal care, regardless of where they are located in the hospital."

NHMRC Chief Executive Officer, Professor Warwick Anderson has welcomed this opportunity. "We congratulate Ms Jansen and look forward to working with the SA Health Nursing and Midwifery Office in the important area of palliative care. 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."

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

Further information about the other NICS Fellows and the NICS Leadership Program is available at [www.nhmrc.gov.au/nics](http://www.nhmrc.gov.au/nics).

## Australian College of Midwives Midwifery Excellence Awards for 2008

Congratulations to **Aurianne Webber** who is the proud recipient of the Australian College of Midwives Midwifery Excellence Award for 2008 in South Australia. The award was presented on 5 May in celebration of International Midwives Day. Aurianne was proud and honoured to receive the acknowledgement of her colleagues. It is through team work in her workplace and collegial support from midwives, nurses and medical staff which enables any individual to receive such an award in the course of their midwifery work. To be a midwife is to be 'with women' during their journey from pregnancy, labour, birth and early parenting.

Aurianne stated that she "is fortunate to be part of the Midwifery Group Practice at the Women's and Children's Hospital and to work with such inspirational, skilled midwives in Midwifery Group Practice and in the Women's and Babies Division".

## Australian Maternity Outcomes Surveillance System

An exciting new project for maternity services in Australia has recently commenced. The Australian Maternity Outcomes Surveillance System (AMOSS) will be established as a national system to study rare disorders that occur in pregnancy and childbirth. The outcomes to the AMOSS project are:

- > improve the knowledge of rare disorders that occur in pregnancy and childbirth and their management in Australia
- > undertake national research of rare disorders evident during pregnancy and puerperium
- > translate research findings into policy, clinical guidelines and education resources for the multidisciplinary workforce.

For further information please contact Janice Biggs by e-mail to [Janice.biggs@unsw.edu.au](mailto:Janice.biggs@unsw.edu.au) or by telephone on (02) 9382 1068.

# Nursing and Midwifery Matters

## Development of nurse practitioner roles in Mental Health

The development of nurse practitioner roles in Mental Health followed a different pattern to that of most other nurse practitioner roles. Funding to establish candidacy positions came from the Mental Health Care Improvement Initiative and was part of a larger project for service development. Candidacy positions were advertised and potential candidates were invited to apply with a clear work plan for establishing the role. Sally Hampel commenced her candidacy in August 2006 and in April 2008 she was authorised to practice as a Nurse Practitioner Mental Health Community.

Crucial to the development of the nurse practitioner role is the improvement of service provision and this candidacy facilitated the development of the Early Intervention Depression & Anxiety Clinic within Eastern Mental Health Service. This nurse-led clinic provides improved access and reduces both waiting times and the need for repeated assessments, thereby enabling clients to access short-term, evidence-based psychotherapeutic interventions within a recovery orientated framework.



*Sally Hampel*

It also offers the opportunity for other mental health clinicians to increase their knowledge and understanding of therapeutic options and collaborative approaches available in the treatment of depression and anxiety, particularly non-pharmacological options, through short-term placement within the clinic with Mental Health Service support. Sally does not see her authorisation as a Mental Health Nurse Practitioner as the end of her professional journey but rather as the beginning of a new and more challenging one. Congratulations Sally.

## Human Services at Work Awards for Excellence in Workforce Development 2008



*Karen Workman*

On 22 May 2008 the Human Services at Work Awards for Excellence in Workforce Development were presented by the SA Health and Community Skills Board. Karen Workman (Staff Development Consultant), Royal Adelaide Hospital was successful in winning the Individual Achievement award. This

was in recognition of Karen's involvement in the development and implementation of vocational education for existing enrolled nurses through the Central Northern Adelaide Health Service Registered Training Organisation (CNAHS RTO). This qualification has meant that enrolled nurses can now work in extended roles. Karen is currently involved in the new higher level qualification the Advanced Diploma of Nursing. From a state perspective Karen has led a collaborative network of education providers to maximise the best outcomes for enrolled nurses with the Advanced Diploma of Nursing qualification.

The Central Northern Adelaide Health Service Registered Training Organisation & Staff

Development Department at Royal Adelaide Hospital was selected as a finalist in the Innovation in Workforce Development category. This was in recognition of the work of the CNAHS RTO with the Department of Health to expand the range of qualifications specific to the health workforce sector, to enable the development of new work roles and the up-skilling of the existing workforce. This has included qualifications for pharmacy assistants, sterilisation services, allied health assistants, orderlies and enrolled nursing.



*From left to right*

*Back Row: Alan Spriggs, Darin Baldock*

*Middle Row: Sophie Lambropoulos, Effie Christopoulos,*

*Sylvia Morris, Mike Bateman, Doug Blazely, Peter Kirkpatrick*

*Front Row: Lou McInnes, Lisa Vertue, Karen Workman,*

*Lyn McCarthy, Natalie Vinczer*

# Nursing and Midwifery Matters

## Upcoming Events and Conferences

**Improving Patient Flows: elective surgery**  
7–8 August 2008 – Q1 Resort and Spa, Surfers Paradise, Queensland

[www.changechampions.com.au/](http://www.changechampions.com.au/)

**Health at the Heart of Australia**

Australian Cardiovascular Health & Rehabilitation Association & Chronic Diseases Network (NT) Conference – 14–15 August 2008 – Alice Springs Convention Centre – [www.thebesteevents.com.au](http://www.thebesteevents.com.au)

**Networking: Crossing borders**

3rd National Conference for Emergency Nurses – 28–30 August 2008 – Sheraton Perth Hotel, Western Australia

[www.cdesign.com.au/cena2008](http://www.cdesign.com.au/cena2008)

**Leading and Learning**

2008 National Palliative Care Nurses Australia Conference – 12–13 September 2008 – Adelaide Hilton, South Australia – All nurses with an interest in caring for people and their families/caregivers with a life limiting illness are invited to participate in the two day conference.

[www.plevin.com.au/pcna2008](http://www.plevin.com.au/pcna2008)

**Celebrating Professional Excellence in Nursing**

RCNA – 25–27 September 2008 – Perth, Western Australia – Contact: Emma Rice, Events Administrator on 1800 061 660 or

[conference@rcna.org.au](mailto:conference@rcna.org.au)

**CSHISC Making A Difference...2008 Conference**

Community Services and Health Industry Skills Conference – 15–16 October 2008 – Adelaide Hilton, South Australia

[www.cshisc.com.au/conference/](http://www.cshisc.com.au/conference/)

**Nurse Practitioners: A solution for the future**

Australian Nurse Practitioner Association 4th Annual Conference – 26–28 October 2008 – Telstra Dome, Melbourne

[www.cdesign.com.au/anpa2008](http://www.cdesign.com.au/anpa2008)

**National Forum on Safety and Quality in Health Care**

29–31 October 2008 – Adelaide Convention Centre – Contact: Annabel Holliss on (08) 8274 6050 or [aholliss@sapmea.asn.au](mailto:aholliss@sapmea.asn.au) – [www.sapmea.asn.au/conventions/forumsqhc2008/index.html](http://www.sapmea.asn.au/conventions/forumsqhc2008/index.html)

**Leadership and Practice Development in Health: Quality and Safety through Workplace Learning**

27–28 November 2008 – Hotel Grand Chancellor, Hobart – The Conference has an interdisciplinary focus on workplace learning and clinical supervision in its many forms.

[www.cdesign.com.au/leadership](http://www.cdesign.com.au/leadership)

**Health in Transition: Researching for the Future**

Royal District Nursing Service (RDNS) of South Australia, in collaboration with the International Conferences on Community Health Nursing Research (ICCHNR), 4th ICCHNR Conference – August 2009 – Adelaide, South Australia

[www.healthintransition2009.org.au/](http://www.healthintransition2009.org.au/)

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## Newsletters and News

**Centre for Allied Health Evidence Newsletter May/June 2008**

CAHE's May/June 2008 newsletter features CAHE's Dr Saravana Kumar award of the prestigious national NHMRC Fellowship Improving the management of whiplash-associated disorders. There is a new high-quality CAHE Discharge Planning DVD due for release later this year. To download a copy of the newsletter please visit [www.unisa.edu.au/cahe/pubs/CAHEform.asp](http://www.unisa.edu.au/cahe/pubs/CAHEform.asp).

**Statewide Maternal and Neonatal Clinical Network Newsletter**

The April edition of the Statewide Maternal and Neonatal Clinical Network Newsletter is now available at [www.health.sa.gov.au/clinicalnetworks](http://www.health.sa.gov.au/clinicalnetworks).

**RDNS Research Unit "Pursuit of Excellence"**

The May 2008 edition of the RDNS Research Unit newsletter is now available at [http://www.rdns.org.au/research\\_unit/POE.shtml](http://www.rdns.org.au/research_unit/POE.shtml). This edition focuses on 'Sterility, stability and potency of medications administered by carers in home-based palliative care'.

**Statewide Rehabilitation Clinical Network News**

The May edition of the Rehabilitation Clinical Network Newsletter is now available at [www.health.sa.gov.au/clinicalnetworks](http://www.health.sa.gov.au/clinicalnetworks).

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