



## FROM THE WEBSITE

### Profession Specific Information Sheets

Profession specific information sheets provide a summary of the most relevant resources within the website for some of the groups involved in palliative care. Further profession specific sheets will be added over time. The following information sheets are available:

- > [GP Fact Sheet](#)
- > [Pastoral Care Workers and Chaplains Fact Sheet](#)
- > [Pharmacists Fact Sheet](#)
- > [Volunteer Fact Sheet](#)

### CNIN January 2009

The [CareSearch Nurses Information Newsletter](#) for January 2009 is now available. The January issue includes:

- > Clinical Uses: Creating a search for an unusual topic
- > Evidence Based Practice: How to assess a journal article
- > CareSearch Page Profile: Finding out more

### CareSearch Review Collection

Below is a selection of the 33 reviews recently added to the CareSearch Review Collection in January 2009:

- > Janssen DJ, Spruit MA, Wouters EF, Schols JM. [Daily symptom burden in end-stage chronic organ failure: a systematic review](#). *Palliat Med*. 2008 Dec;22(8):938-48. The authors concluded that even given disparities in research the studies suggest significant symptom burden in end stage CHF, COPD and CRF patients highlighting the need for further prospective and longitudinal research. This could facilitate the development of patient-centred palliative care programs for these groups.

- > Hudson P, Quinn K, O'Hanlon B, Aranda S. [Family meetings in palliative care: Multidisciplinary clinical practice guidelines](#). *BMC Palliat Care*. 2008 Aug 19;7:12. This study sought to develop multidisciplinary clinical practice guidelines for conducting family meetings in the specialist palliative care setting based on available evidence and consensus based. Although the literature review revealed no comprehensive exploration of the conduct and utility of family meetings in the specialist palliative care setting had occurred, the authors concluded that family meetings provide an opportunity to enhance the quality of care provided to palliative care patients and their family carers.
- > Deandrea S, Montanari M, Moja L, Apolone G. [Prevalence of undertreatment in cancer pain. A review of published literature](#). *Ann Oncol*. 2008 Dec;19(12):1985-91. The studies showed that nearly one out of two patients with cancer pain is undertreated. The authors note that there was large variability of undertreatment across studies and settings.
- > Hales S, Zimmermann C, Rodin G. [The quality of dying and death](#). *Arch Intern Med*. 2008 May 12;168(9):912-8. The authors suggested that the literature revealed that the quality of dying and death construct is multidimensional, with 7 broad domains: physical experience, psychological experience, social experience, spiritual or existential experience, the nature of health care, life closure and death preparation, and the circumstances of death.

Information on all the systematic reviews in this collection can be found at

<http://www.caresearch.com.au/caresearch/FindingEvidence/CareSearchReviewCollection/tabid/501/Default.aspx>

## RESEARCH STUDIES REGISTER

As part of our activities in developing supports for research and clinical practice in palliative care, we maintain a Research Studies Register in the CareSearch website. We are updating the Register with details of new research projects. The Research Studies Register acts not only as a summary of current research work, but also encourages awareness and interaction between researchers. It can help prevent duplication of work and encourage researchers with common interests to collaborate in broader multisite based studies. To add your project to the register, please complete a [Research Studies Register proforma](#). Projects should have received ethics approval.

You can find out more about the Research Studies Register at

<http://www.caresearch.com.au/caresearch/ResearchResources/ResearchStudiesRegister/tabid/126/Default.aspx>

## WHAT'S NEW IN THE PALLIATIVE CARE COMMUNITY?

### ANZSPM National Forums

The Australian New Zealand Society of Palliative Medicine (ANZSPM) is conducting [educational forums](#) for medical practitioners interested in palliative medicine in 10 cities in Australia and New Zealand between March and May 2009 as part of its commitment to provide increased CPD activities for its members. The forums will be held in the following venues on the following dates between 6.30 and 9.00pm:

- > Adelaide on 6 April 2009
- > Perth on 7 April 2009
- > Darwin on 8 April 2009
- > Melbourne on 4 May 2009
- > Hobart on 5 May 2009
- > Sydney on 6 May 2009
- > Brisbane on 7 May 2009

For more information, or to register, go to the ANZSPM website.

## THE AUSTRALIAN NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF PALLIATIVE MEDICINE (ANZSPM) IS CONDUCTING EDUCATIONAL FORUMS FOR MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS INTERESTED IN PALLIATIVE MEDICINE...

### Patient and carer involvement in chronic disease - NLH Annual Update

The UK's National Library for Health has published its first [Annual Evidence Update on 'Patient and carer involvement in chronic disease'](#). It collects together the best current knowledge on self care in chronic disease management. The focus is on Key resources from a small sample of chronic conditions, together with the End of Life Care setting.

### Bereavement in Secure Setting

The Childhood Bereavement Network has published a briefing paper on [bereavement issues affecting young people in secure settings](#). This UK briefing document provides an overview of the issues and suggestions for dealing with bereavement for young people in this setting.

### Ovarian Cancer Awareness month

February is [Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month](#). Ovarian Cancer Australia facilitates the month encouraging women and healthcare professionals to understand more about ovarian cancer.

You can find out more about what is happening in the palliative care community by checking "What's New" at <http://www.caresearch.com.au/caresearch/AboutCareSearch/News/WhatsNewintheCommunity/tabid/167/Default.aspx>

## REVIEW OF PATIENTS AND FAMILIES PAGES

We are currently revising the [patients and carers](#) pages. This is a part of our ongoing quality process and we are asking for your help. Our National Advisory Group recently helped us review how the pages in this section are structured. As a result we are looking at organising pages by types of information needs rather than by groups of possible users such as patients, carers or families.

Pages will now be grouped in one of the following clusters:

- > About palliative care
- > Changes over time
- > Practical caring information
- > Financial matters
- > Feelings and emotions
- > Helping families
- > Plans and decisions

The majority of pages in these sections have already been written. However we are aware that some need updating and we are looking for help in reviewing these pages and any new pages. Your input could help make the pages more useful for patients and their families. If you are interested in commenting on or reviewing any of the pages as they are being written please contact Deb Rawlings at [deborah.rawlings@flinders.edu.au](mailto:deborah.rawlings@flinders.edu.au)



## PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS

We have a variety of information pieces available for the palliative care community. A bookmark has now been printed and can be ordered. It is a handy size to give to patients and members of the community.

You can view these resources on the website and download an order form.

<http://www.caresearch.com.au/caresearch/AboutCareSearch/ProjectResources/PromotionalResources/tabid/433/Default.aspx>

All enquiries regarding our promotional materials can be directed to Natasha Schembri via email at [natasha.schembri@flinders.edu.au](mailto:natasha.schembri@flinders.edu.au)

## March Newsletter

The next newsletter will be circulated on the first Wednesday in March.

If you have any item you would like to have considered for inclusion please send details one week prior to the circulation date to

[natasha.schembri@flinders.edu.au](mailto:natasha.schembri@flinders.edu.au)



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## RESEARCH NEWS

### Career Development Awards

The **NHMRC Career Development awards** aim to further develop Australian health and medical researchers early in their career. It intends for investigators to establish themselves as independent, self-directed researchers; expand capacity for biomedical, clinical, public health and health service delivery research and for evidence-based policy development in Australian health systems; and encourage the translation of research outcomes into practice. Applications for the 2010 funding round are now open. Applications close 31 March 2009.

### 11th Funding Round for CRCs

The **11th funding Round of the CRC Program** is now open. It provides funding to build critical mass in research ventures between end-users and researchers which tackle clearly-articulated, major challenges for the end-users. In this new round, CRCs are encouraged to engage globally with international partner organisations. Co-investment with international organisations is also particularly encouraged. Applications close 20 March 2009

## CONFERENCES

Conference: 6th Annual Paediatric Palliative Care Symposium 2009

Date: March 5-6 2009

Location: Westmead, NSW, Australia

Conference: Enhancing Care 09 Conference

Date: May 7-8 2009

Location: Grampians, Victoria, Australia

Conference: National Australian Conference: Evidence-based Clinical Leadership

Date: May 27-29 2009

Location: Adelaide, South Australia

Conference: 8th Annual Research Conference: Palliative Care in the Community

Date: June 5 2009

Location: Brisbane, Queensland, Australia

This is just a small selection of the 2009 conferences held on CareSearch. Details on these and other conferences in 2009 and 2010 can be found on the Conferences page.

<http://www.caresearch.com.au/caresearch/Education/Conferences/tabid/74/Default.aspx>