

CARESEARCH E-NEWS JANUARY 2008

2008 promises to be an exciting year as the redevelopment of the website gathers momentum. New materials are currently being developed with the help of many people throughout the palliative care community. We are still adding to the existing CareSearch website and will continue to do so up to the release of the new website which will contain the existing information and resources as well as the new material.

What's new on the website?

CareSearch resources

A new set of promotional pages called 'Using the website more effectively' has been added to the website. This guide was designed specifically for nurses and provides practical help on topics such as finding your way around CareSearch, helping carers find information and finding journal articles on palliative topics. You can find this resource and others at:

http://www.caresearch.com.au/Home/Portals/CareSearch/Knowledge%20Network/UsingCareSearcheffectively_%20aguideforNurses.pdf.

You can also order fact sheets, bookmarks and flyers for carers by completing the attached order form and posting it back to us or by emailing a request to Natasha.Schembri@flinders.edu.au

2008 Conferences

Information on palliative care conferences to be held in 2008 nationally and internationally has been added to the website. You can find dates and places for conferences and links to further conference details at:

<http://www.caresearch.com.au/home/Educationtraining/Conferences/tabid/105/Default.aspx>

Newsletters

The latest ComPAC newsletter is available on CareSearch. ComPAC is a project developing evidence based guidelines for a palliative approach for aged care in the community.

<http://www.caresearch.com.au/home/tabid/669/Default.aspx>

The December PCOC newsletter is available on CareSearch. The Palliative Care Outcomes Collaborative (PCOC) is a voluntary quality initiative to assist palliative care services improve practice and meet the Standards for Providing Palliative Care for All Australians developed by Palliative Care Australia.

<http://www.caresearch.com.au/Home/Portals/CareSearch/National%20program/PCOCnews2.pdf>

Using the website

Referring carers to CareSearch

CareSearch has a number of pages written specifically for carers. They include information on practical caring matters, communicating effectively, and many other issues of concern to carers. You can hand out a free magnetic information card to carers and family members (available from CareSearch).

Useful information for carers

There are a series of pages on palliative care topics in the Patients & Carers section. They cover issues such as complementary therapy, financial matters, wills and funerals, and pain and other symptoms. They include links to major organisations and pamphlets and leaflets that can be downloaded. You can print the pages and give them to the family.

State-based information

In the Useful Information section of the Patient & Carers area there are resources on a State by state basis. Resources cover contacts, practical supplies, transport help and many other matters. You can also find patient support groups in each state listed in the Disease and Illness Resources section.

What's new in the palliative care community?

New UK paediatric resource

The 2007 edition of a children's palliative care symptom control manual, *Basic Symptom Control in Paediatric Palliative Care: the Rainbows Children's Hospice Guidelines*, has been launched. The manual is available at Association for Children's Palliative Care at:
<http://www.act.org.uk/content/view/100/1/>

Report on Subcutaneous Infusion Devices (Australia)

Following the withdrawal from sale of the Graseby syringe drivers, Palliative Care Australia in collaboration with the Centre for Palliative Care Research and Education prepared a report to help inform the palliative care and aged care sectors about alternative devices that are available to the Australian market. The report is available at:
<http://www.pallcare.org.au/Portals/46/Policy/SyringeDriverReport.pdf>

NHMRC grants timetable

The NHMRC timetable for 2009 research grants and people support awards is now available at:
<http://www.nhmrc.gov.au/news/tracker/tracker07/071207.htm>

Information on "What's new in the palliative care community" is added regularly to the CareSearch website. You can find out what's going on at:
<http://www.caresearch.com.au/home/Home/Whatsnewinthepalliativecarecommunity/tabid/266/Default.aspx>

Conferences

5th Annual Paediatric Palliative Care Symposium *The psychological experience of the child with a life threatening illness*
March 7 2008, Westmead, NSW

2nd International Conference in Palliative Care *Palliative care in different cultures*
March 19-22 2008 Eilat, Israel

7th Annual Kaleidoscope Conference
June 11-12, 2008 Dublin, Ireland

2008 National Congress Health Services Management *Different faces, different places*
August 6-8 2008, Alice Springs, Northern Territory

Sydney Cancer Conference 2008
July 25-26 2008, Sydney, NSW

You can find information on these and other conferences in the Conferences page at:
<http://www.caresearch.com.au/home/Education/Conferences/tabid/105/Default.aspx>

Special focus...Research resources

Research evidence can inform direct patient care, its delivery and organisation. There are many issues that need to be considered in conducting research. There are a growing number of resources available that can help palliative care groups to build the necessary infrastructure and knowledge to support research work.

The Centre for Health Services Development has produced the document Ethical Research in Palliative Care ([http://www.health.gov.au/internet/wcms/publishing.nsf/Content/palliativecare-pubs-rsch-ethic.htm/\\$FILE/ethicall.pdf](http://www.health.gov.au/internet/wcms/publishing.nsf/Content/palliativecare-pubs-rsch-ethic.htm/$FILE/ethicall.pdf)) which may help in developing an ethics proposal.

Clinical research is guided by a series of standards specified in national and international documents and regulatory requirements. Key documents include:

- International Conference of Harmonisation (ICH) Guideline for Good Clinical Practice provides guidance and principles on how clinical research should be planned, reviewed and conducted to meet international standards (<http://www.ich.org/cache/compo/475-272-1.html#E6>)
- National Health & Medical Research Council National Statement provides a national reference point for ethical consideration of research in humans. (<http://www.nhmrc.gov.au/publications/synopses/e72syn.htm>)
- Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research provides advice on how to manage research data and materials; how to publish and disseminate research findings (including proper attribution of authorship); obligations in peer review; how to collaborate across institutions; and how to manage conflicts of interest (<http://www.nhmrc.gov.au/publications/synopses/r39syn.htm>)

Many journals require clinical trials to be registered on an appropriate Register, if the investigators ultimately want their results to be considered for publication. The Australian Clinical Trials Registry (<http://www.anzctr.org.au/Default.aspx>) will register most clinical trials. The Current Controlled Trials (<http://www.controlled-trials.com/>) is an international registry providing an International Standard Randomised Controlled Trial Number (ISRCTN).

Grants information and other sources of funding can be found on the Grants page in CareSearch. (<http://www.caresearch.com.au/home/ResearchGrants/Grants/tabid/199/Default.aspx>)

The CareSearch Research Data Management System (<http://www.caresearch.com.au/home/ResearchGrants/Researchdatamanagementsystem/tabid/194/Default.aspx>) has been developed to support research work within palliative care by providing access to a tool that

- enables the online design of data collection forms and questionnaires
- allows for web-based and email-based form completion
- enables data entry from multiple sites with a single coordinating site
- provides for basic reporting of results with features such as percentages, graphs, and tables
- allows export of data to other programs such as Excel, Access or SPSS

If you would like to provide feedback on this newsletter or make a contribution to the next edition, please contact Natasha.Schembri@flinders.edu.au

Order Form

We have a variety of information sheets, flyers and bookmarks available for the palliative care community. Let us know what items you need.

Item	Quantity
GP Information (A4 Fact Sheet)	
GP Information (Bookmark)	
Patient, Carer, Families and Friends Information (A4 Fact Sheet)	
Nurses Information (A4 Fact Sheet)	
How CareSearch can help Nurses - Magnetic Leaflet	
Allied Health Information (A4 Fact Sheet)	
Aged Care Workers Information (A4 Fact Sheet)	
CareSearch – Generic information (A4 Fact Sheet)	
Six Ways CareSearch can help Carers - Magnetic Leaflet	
CareSearch Generic information - Leaflet	
Using CareSearch more effectively - A guide for nurses	

Personal Details (for postage)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Contact Number: _____

Send form to the following:

CareSearch
 C/- Daw House
 700 Goodwood Road
 Daw Park SA 5041

Or

Fax: (08) 8275 1343

Or

Email: caresearch@flinders.edu.au