

CARESEARCH ENEWS May 2005

Extension of Project

The Evidence Based (CareSearch) project has been extended until the end of June 2006 with the new variation coming into effect at the start of May 2005.

The contract deliverables for this period are quite extensive and include:

- Continuing the core CareSearch work relating to the literature databases, promotion of the site, updating the existing resources and continuing to evaluate conference abstracts
- Undertaking a CareSearch Plus set of activities to extend the resources available on the website including a research projects database, a palliative medications page, adding a bulletin board functionality to support special interest groups, and developing a training and educational database; and
- Managing tasks associated with the development of the knowledge Network such as maintaining communications about the Knowledge Network project, investigating further the issues around governance and associated materials and documentation, developing an integrated evidence/evaluation schema, and developing a content and functions thesaurus to underpin searching and navigation.

From the website

We have added several new pages to the CareSearch website including:

- Site map, and
- Conferences 2005.

As you'll see from the list above there will be a whole range of new pages and facilities on the site in the coming months. We do appreciate feedback from users and visitors on what you would like to see on the site.

CareSearch positions

There are three vacancies associated with the CareSearch project:

- Research Fellow,
- Research Assistant, and
- Website Administrator.

All positions are for one year. Positions are based in Adelaide. Closing date is Tuesday 14th June 2005. For further information visit the Flinders University site at

<http://www.flinders.edu.au/employment/vacant.php>

PubMed Search topics

At the moment we're looking at new search topics to use in PubMed section of the Search Strategies in Palliative Care. We already have eleven topics. Clicking on the search topic launches you into the PubMed database and retrieves the relevant article citations automatically.

Some of the suggestions we've had so far for new searches are anxiety, confusion, delirium, ethics, fatigue, prognosis, spirituality, MND, staff support, and complementary therapy.

Let us know what topics you'd find useful by emailing: Jennifer.Tieman@rgh.sa.gov.au

Evaluating conference abstracts

We have had two members from the palliative community reply to our request to assist with the evaluation of conference abstract for the project. They have already made a significant contribution to the project along with the members of the National Reference Group who are actively involved in assessing these abstracts. As we add items to the conference abstract section of CareSearch's literature database we need help in evaluating these abstracts.

If you are a clinician or researcher and are interested in helping, please contact the CareSearch project team. Evaluations are done on-line and would only take 1-2 hours monthly. We'd love another 2 or 3 people to help and it's a great way to build your critical appraisal skills. Your contribution would help build the knowledge base for palliative care in Australia.

CareSearch Poster

We've included a copy of the poster on CareSearch that was presented at the European Palliative Care Conference. This poster provides a summary of the CareSearch project to date. It can be found in the resources section of the website.

From the Web

The new [Standards for Providing Quality Palliative Care for all Australians](#) have been released and are available on the PCA website at <http://www.pallcare.org.au/>

The Pallium site in Canada has gone live. This site describes itself as a "Canadian Community of Practice (CoP) – academic, service delivery, voluntary sector and government leaders actively engaged in building Canada's hospice palliative care capacity together." The site is available at <http://www.pallium.ca/>

News and events

World Hospice Day will be held on 8th October 2005. World Hospice and Palliative Care Day is a new unified day of action to celebrate and support hospice and palliative care around the world. Details on the day can be found at the website on <http://www.worldday.org/>

The International Institute of Palliative and Supportive Services has just released the 2nd edition of Motor Neurone Disease – A Learning Package for Health Professionals. For further details, email iihs@flinders.edu.au

Conference Information

[Diversity in Health 2005](#): Multicultural health and well-being conference held 17 – 19 October 2005 Hilton on the Park, Melbourne Victoria

[2005 Joanna Briggs Institute International Convention - Pebbles of knowledge: Making evidence meaningful](#) A conference uniting evidence of effectiveness and experience for professionals and consumers 28 – 30 November 2005 Hilton Adelaide South Australia

[Australian Association of Gerontology](#)
Exploring the Meaning of Ageing Through Practice, Policy and Research
9 - 11 November 2005
Gold Coast International Hotel
Surfers Paradise, Queensland

[First National Conference on Spirituality and Health](#) 28-29 July University of Adelaide Bonython Hall, South Australia

Details on all these conferences and on others can be found on CareSearch in the Resources section, Conferences 2005

Training Opportunities

The inaugural palliative medicine trainee study day will be held on Sunday 28th at Sacred Heart Hospice, Sydney. Details are available from the Advanced Trainee reps – Dr Mainstone (pmainstone@optusnet.com.au) and Dr Agar (meera_agar@yahoo.com.au)

Advanced Clinical Skills for Nurses: Four evening workshops on 22 June, 29 June, 6 July and 13 July in Adelaide covering the following topics:

- Abdominal examination
- Respiratory assessment
- Neurological assessment
- Mental health assessment.

For further details contact Michael Cox on (08) 8275 1672 or email iihs@flinders.edu.au

Items for the eNews

Please send us information on local news or events or national training and education topics so that we can share this information with others in the palliative community.

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Published by The International Institute of Palliative and Supportive Studies
700 Goodwood Road, Daw Park South Australia 5041
Phone: +61 8 8275 1672 Fax: +61 8 8374 4018
E-mail: iihs@flinders.edu.au

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