

CareSearch eNews

May 2006



From the CareSearch website

New Patient Care Pages

We have completed several new pages relating to patient care. These are available on the website. The pages relating to clinical issues are:

- [Self care](#)
- [Complementary therapies](#)

The pages relating to service issues are:

- [Models of service delivery](#)
- [Resources for service managers](#)

Searching

We have introduced a new set of pages dealing with [Databases and information sources](#). This page describes various on-line resources many of which are free to use and some of which are palliative care specific. These resources along with the PubMed searches can help keep you up to date with the research work and new developments in palliative care.

Databases

As at May 2006, items held in the literature databases are as follows:

Non-indexed journal articles	549
Conference abstracts	2184
Thesis	78
Grey Literature	116

Hot Picks

Professor Paddy A. Phillips reviews an article by Noble, Nelson, Turner and Finlay (2006) which investigates the attitudes of patients with advanced cancer receiving palliative care to low molecular weight heparin thromboprophylaxis.

The April Hot Pick can be found at <http://www.caresearch.com.au/home/Resources/Hotpicks/April2006/tabid/367/Default.aspx>

Tools and templates

We'd like to thank the services that have sent us resources and tools to be available through CareSearch. We are currently reviewing and collating the material. We hope to have a page in CareSearch with links to these tools in the next month.

We are happy to receive more tools, templates and resources. If you have materials that you think could be useful, please make them available for this project by contacting Jennifer.Tieman@flinders.edu.au

Research Register

We have created the Research Studies Register in the CareSearch website and are now keen to fill it with details of Australian research in palliative care. A registration proforma is attached.

The Research Studies Register will promote awareness among the palliative care community of current research, assist in building capacity and relationships between researchers, and prevent duplication of activities.

Please note that to be included in the Register, the project should have been submitted for, or have received, ethics approval.

Email your completed registration form to Jennifer.Tieman@flinders.edu.au and we will upload them to the website.

New resources

We have added various pages to the Resources section. The [Caring Communities Program](#) has had several new project pages added. The [Palliative Medicines Working Group](#) has provided several posters and a PowerPoint explaining the project and its objectives.

Building for the Knowledge Network

A number of community consultations have been completed with volunteers, carers' groups, health professionals, and community organisations. The reports of these consultations will be written up and added to the CareSearch website in the near future.

We are currently developing preliminary information architecture to see how all the ideas for information and content could be housed in a Knowledge Network. We need to be sure that there is a logical structure that helps users find the information they need quickly and easily.

Several new pages have been drafted as part of the project. These are currently being reviewed and should be released to the website in the next month.

We would be keen to hear from groups or individuals regarding what they would like to see on CareSearch for patients, caregivers, volunteers, and families and friends. Please ring on (08) 8275 1732 or email Jennifer.Tieman@flinders.edu.au

Further commitment to palliative care

The Federal Government will continue special project funding to further develop palliative care provision in Australia by a renewed commitment of \$62.8m over 4 years. This funding will continue to allow for expansion of critical work on six priority areas.

- * Better access to medicines
- * Support for families and the community
- * Building the workforce
- * Models of care across the country
- * Building the evidence
- * Research - building and using information

Details of the Australian Budget for Health in 2006-2007 is available at <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/budget/publication.nsf/Content/2006-2007-1>

From the Web

Canadian Virtual Hospice website

The Canadian Virtual Hospice no longer requires users to register for the non-interactive elements of the site. The site has a wealth of useful material on it. Not having to register before accessing the public information will make it much more attractive to many users. You can visit the website at <http://www.virtualhospice.ca/Default.asp>

Living, working caring website

PCA, with funding from the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing, has developed a trial website aimed primarily at the work colleagues of people with a life threatening illness or their carers. The website contains information on understanding the experiences of work colleagues and provides tips on creating a supportive work environment. The website also provides information for people living with a life threatening illness and their carers. You can visit the website at <http://www.livingcaringworking.com/>

Health EU Portal

The European Commission has launched a new Health Portal. One of the main goals of the Portal is to help people take responsibility for and improve their own health. It provides information on a wide range of health concerns. Forty-seven topics are divided into six thematic areas. The website is available at http://ec.europa.eu/health-eu/index_en.htm

The National Council for Palliative Care (NCPC) recently held an event on outcome measurement in palliative care. A summary of the key points from the day, along with speakers' presentations, can be found on the NCPC website at: <http://www.ncpc.org.uk/events/outcomes.html>

Conference dates 2006

3rd Annual South Australian Palliative Care Update

The International Institute of Palliative and Supportive Studies will be holding the 3rd Annual South Australian Palliative Care Update on September 29th, 2006.

This year's keynote speaker will be Dr Jenny Abbey. Best known as the creator of the Abbey Pain Scale, Dr Abbey will be giving a presentation on Pain Assessment for People with Dementia (specifically on the use of the Abbey Pain Scale), as well as an additional workshop for a strictly limited number of people on Palliative Care for People with Dementia. This session will fill quickly, so early registration is advised. Email ihs@flinders.edu.au for details.

'Strength in working together'

Palliative Care Nurses Australia invites you to their inaugural conference 'Strength in working together' incorporating the first Annual General Meeting. The conference will be held on 8th and 9th of September at the Hotel Y in Melbourne. Details can be found at <http://www.pallcare.org.au/Default.aspx?tabid=482>

Education / training items

As you will see from the Short course and conference webpage, there are many opportunities to maintain and develop skills. We are very happy to have education and training providers forward their material to us for posting on the website. We do review the details sent in to make sure they are relevant to our audience. So, please send us details on any education and training activities that you have organised for 2006. This is free promotion for your activity and helps the community stay in touch. Email items to: Jennifer.Tieman@flinders.edu.au

The CareSearch website and the Evidence Based (Palliative Care) project are supported by a grant from the Department of Health and Ageing.



CareSearch Project

Research Studies Register: Registration Proforma

Study Title:						
Brief description of the study:						
Study Methodology: (Please mark with an x which type of study methodology)						
<input type="checkbox"/>	Epidemiology					
<input type="checkbox"/>	Health Services / Health Economics / Quality Improvement					
<input type="checkbox"/>	Qualitative, Observational or Descriptive					
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mixed Method					
<input type="checkbox"/>	Systematic Review					
<input type="checkbox"/>	Intervention: RCT					
<input type="checkbox"/>	Intervention: Comparative or cohort study					
<input type="checkbox"/>	Intervention: Case series					
Project details:						
Funding source (Optional):						
Has the study received ethics approval?	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not applicable
Project starting date:						
Project completion date:						
Multi site:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not applicable
RESEARCHERS						
Principle Investigator (name)						
Contact Details						
Investigator B (Name)						
Investigator C (Name)						
Investigator D (Name)						
Investigator E (Name)						
Associated publications / reports:						
<p>PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO CareSearch, Department of Palliative and Supportive Services, Flinders University, C/- RGH, 700 Goodwood Road, Daw Park, SA 5041 Or email to CareSearch@rgh.sa.gov.au</p>						