

CareSearch eNews November 2005

From the CareSearch website

New content has been added to the website including:

- Palliative medications web page in the Patient Care section
- Accessibility help in the About Us section
- Viewing PDFs in the About Us section
- FAQ page to assist with searching the Literature Databases

A sample survey can be accessed from the Research Data Management system page. This provides an example of the type of questions and styles that can be used in designing questionnaires and forms.

The Resources section includes a growing number of posters presented at the recent Palliative Care Australia Conference 2005. These posters provide a quick overview of some of the research and review work that is going on around the country.

A search capacity has been developed and can now be used. It is located in the sidebar on each page. The search covers all of the website pages except for the abstract pages held in the literature databases which have their own search engine. The search function is a handy way of quickly checking if the website has any content relevant to what you need.

CareSearch has also received permission to include the Table of Contents for the Social Networks and Palliative Care newsletter on the website. This will be accessible through the non-indexed Australian journal page.

Ideas for new PubMed searches and patient care pages

We are planning on expanding our PubMed search topics. There are currently seventeen topics available. We would be keen to find out what users of the website would find useful.

The PubMed searches are a quick way to find the latest articles on a palliative topic or area of interest. The searches connect you immediately to the bibliographic databases of the National Library of Medicine and retrieve abstracts and citation details. Send us an email with suggestions for new searches.

We are also looking at developing new patient care pages dealing with clinical and service issues. We would be interested in your ideas about what areas of care would be most useful. These pages are not intended to duplicate material that may exist in other clinical guides or textbooks but to provide an overview of issues and considerations and links to key documents and resources in the area. We'd be very interested to get some feedback on what clinicians see as the important topics. So please send us an email with your thoughts.

Hot Picks

There are two very interesting reviews on the website. Dr Bev McNamara has looked at a recent article in Palliative Medicine called *The healthcare needs of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease patients in the last year of life*.

The CareSearch Research Fellow, Dr Christine Sanderson, has provided a review of *Therapeutic Guidelines Palliative Care Version 2*. The 2nd edition has been recently released and Dr Sanderson gives an overview of the book and its usefulness.

Both these reviews can be found in the resources section of the website at <http://www.caresearch.com.au/home/Resources/HotPicks/tabid/104/Default.aspx>

From the Web

A website created at La Trobe University is providing information for speech pathologists on how they can contribute to holistic, multidisciplinary care of people who have a

life-limiting illness. You can visit *Care and Communication: The role of the speech pathologist in palliative care* at <http://www.latrobe.edu.au/careandcommunication/index.htm>

ACROSSnet (Australians Creating Rural Online Support Systems) is a three-year collaborative action research project. While the primary focus of the project is rural and remote support and education regarding suicide and its prevention, it does have some useful resources regarding bereavement and cultural and rural/remote issues. The website is found at <http://www.acrossnet.net.au/>

A report entitled *Paediatric Palliative and Supportive Care: Caring for Life* has been completed. It is available on-line at <http://www.health.wa.gov.au/hrit/publications/docs/Paediatric%20Palliative%20Care%20Report.pdf>

A paper by Dr Derek Doyle *Palliative Medicine: the first 18 years of a new subspecialty of General Medicine* has been published. The paper is available online at http://www.rcpe.ac.uk/publications/articles/palliative_medicine.pdf

The Australian Pain Society has released its report *Pain in Residential Aged Care Facilities: Management Strategies*. The report is available from Australian Pain Society at <http://www.apsoc.org.au/news.php?scode=9e2c2n>

The National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) in the UK has recently released an all in one guidance relating to pressure ulcer prevention and management. This information can be accessed at the NICE website at www.nice.org.uk

News and events

The Knowledge Network Project News is available on the website in the Resources section. You can also register to have the newsletter emailed to you. If you would like to register for the Project News please send us an email at CareSearch asking to be added to the Knowledge Network Project News distribution list.

The National Institute of Clinical Studies has renewed the national license for the Cochrane Library for a further 2 years, providing all

Australians access via the NICS website. For further information see <http://www.ncsl.com.au/>

Local Palliative Care Grants Rd 3 is now open. Applications for grants for projects to improve care planning for palliative patients have been called for. Application kits are currently available on the Department of Health and Ageing website at www.health.gov.au/tenders or by emailing localpallcare@health.gov.au Applications close Friday 13 January 2006

Submissions for the National Palliative Care Photo and Story Competition close on 16 December 2005. For further details visit Palliative Care Australia at www.pallcare.org.au

Conference dates 2006

A number of conference dates have been added as conference organisers finalise dates and locations. Among the conferences now being promoted for 2006 are:

Palliative Care Nurses Australia Conference, Melbourne, Victoria 8-9 September 2006
Ph: 02 6232 4433 or pcainc@pallcare.org.au

16th Annual Provincial Conference on Palliative and End of Life Care 23-25 April 2006 Toronto Canada

For details on these and other conferences visit the conference page at <http://www.caresearch.com.au/home/Education/Training/Conferences/tabid/105/Default.aspx>

Education/training items

A new section for education, training and short courses has been added to the website. 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 with maintaining and developing the palliative care workforce. Email items to: Jennifer.Tieman@flinders.edu.au

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