

## Project Update October 2007

### Progressing the redevelopment

The graphic design for the new website has been finalised and work will start in late October on building the new website. Content for the redeveloped site is starting to be written. We will be including some new sections to provide a more comprehensive coverage of topics that are important to palliative care. There will also be specific resources and links for the various groups of health care workers involved in providing care and some additional pages for consumers and members of the public.

The existing pages will also be relocated into the redesigned site.

We are taking the opportunity to sort out some of the problems that we have identified in the last few months in feedback from users. We are improving the search facility to help people find the pages they need more easily. We are going to include the ability to change font size to help with size of text. We are also providing some *How To* pages to help people to use the site more efficiently to meet their particular needs.

Some of our current programs and functions are currently being upgraded. CareSearch has a Research Data Management System as one its features and this is being used by palliative care services and by project teams for different purposes that range from quality audits and patient feedback surveys to multisite clinical trials. The system is being upgraded to provide a more flexible and powerful resource. An accessibility plan is also being developed to support to help people with disabilities use the site more effectively. A keyword or index term feature has been developed for the literature databases.

### Helping us with feedback

The current CareSearch website has been designed to provide the community with up to date information and links to quality resources on palliative care issues. Over the past year the CareSearch website has expanded, developing a new range of resources for the community. We are now looking at getting feedback on awareness and usefulness of the current resources. We are hosting an online survey to find out how users learned about the resource, what they are looking for and whether they find it a useful site.

You can help us by completing the survey. It only has thirteen questions and should take only 1 -2 minutes of your time. You can complete it now by going to:

<http://www.caresearch.com.au/CaresearchCheckbox/Survey.aspx?surveyid=1195>

## Behind the scenes

One of the issues that we have been looking at is how to keep the literature and information up to date. We are mapping out the domains of knowledge and practice and developing searches in different databases to retrieve literature on an automated basis. This will alert us to new research and information as it becomes available. This is a challenge because of the multidisciplinary nature of palliative care and many medical specialties and academic disciplines that contribute to comprehensive care.

## Dissemination activities

Project staff are involved in a number of different conferences. Chris Sanderson will be speaking at COSA on *Changing practice through Quality Research* and spoke recently at the Australian College of Health Executives (NSW) on “*Palliative care for beginners*” – *how to use the CareSearch website to find what you need to know*. Deb Rawlings will be speaking at the Australian General Practice Network on *Finding and applying palliative care evidence in clinical practice*. Jennifer Tieman will be speaking at COSA on *Finding palliative care literature* and at OSWA on *The Australian Palliative Care Knowledge Network*. These presentations reflect some of the streams within the project relating to:

- the identification and dissemination of literature and evidence;
- end user benefits and clinical change
- research and capacity building
- diversity of potential audiences including health professionals and patients, carers and community members.

We will also be making available most presentations on the website at: <http://www.caresearch.com.au/home/Nationalprogram/Knowledgenetwork/Knowledgenetworkpresentationsandpublications/tabid/686/Default.aspx>

## Promotions and marketing

Work has already started on the type of print materials that will be required to support the release of the revised website. In the last eight months we have started developing factsheets, bookmarks and DL strips to promote the current CareSearch website. We are now thinking about what would be most useful for health professionals and for community members. We'd welcome your thoughts on what sort of materials would be most useful to help others learn about CareSearch and how it can help. You can find our current promotional resources at.

<http://www.caresearch.com.au/home/Home/ARCHIVEFILE/Knowledgenetwork/PromotingCareSearch/tabid/687/Default.aspx> .

To recognise the contribution that carers make and to try to help them, we have developed a magnetic DL on *Six ways that CareSearch can help*. We are sending copies to all palliative care services and to carer organisations this week as part of Carers Week, 14 – 20 October, 2007.

You can also order factsheets, 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](mailto: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)	
Patient, Carer, Families and Friends Information (Bookmark)	
Nurses Information (A4 Fact Sheet)	
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 - Leaflet	
CareSearch Generic information - Leaflet	
A-Z of CareSearch (A4 Sheet)	

Personal Details (for postage)

Name:

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Address:

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Contact Number:

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Send form to the following:

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

Or

Fax: (08) 275 1343

Or

Email: [caresearch@flinders.edu.au](mailto:caresearch@flinders.edu.au)