Study Title: How lay carers regard and use the Internet as a source of support information

**Brief description of the study:** This study used focus groups to explore the views of lay carers of people with non-malignant chronic life-limiting illnesses regarding their perceptions of and experiences with online resources for carers. Although motivated, these carers identified challenges with getting started, making progress and navigating well to the information they need. For carers, the process lacks simplicity, and they would benefit from clearer guidelines and person-mediated support.

**Study Methodology:** (Please mark with an x which type of study methodology)

- Epidemiology
- Health Services / Health Economics / Quality Improvement
- **X** Qualitative, Observational or Descriptive
- Mixed Method
- Systematic Review
- Intervention: RCT
- Intervention: Comparative or cohort study
- Intervention: Case series

**Project details:**

- Funding source (Optional): CareSearch
- Has the study received ethics approval? **X** Yes  No  Not applicable
- Project starting date: November 2011
- Project completion date: June 2012 (final report)
- Multi site: **X** Yes  No  Not applicable

**RESEARCHERS**

- **Principal Investigator** (name)  **Geoffrey Mitchell**
- **Contact Details**  E: g.mitchell@uq.edu.au  P: (07) 3381 1363
- **Investigator B** (Name)  Letitia Burridge
- **Investigator C** (Name)
| Investigator D  
| (Name) |
| Investigator E  
| (Name) |

**Associated publications / reports:**


**Topics (Admin only)**  
Caregivers, Online/Web based