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| **CareSearch Project Research Studies Register: Registration Proforma** | | | | | | 0010 |
| **Study Title:** IPP-SHR and Redland Hospital Collaboration - Ethical decision making in a health care setting including findings on end of life care. | | | | | | |
| **Brief description of the study**: The first step in this program of research was a successful research project completed as a collaborative project between Central Queensland University (CQU) and Redland Hospital. The work was titled, "The development of an innovative organizational model for responding to ethical concerns in acute medicine: Bayside Health Service District: Acute Medical Ward as Case Study", was funded and conducted under the auspices of a CQU Industry Grant, funded jointly by CQU and Bayside District Health Service. The research documented the processes used by health professional in resolving ethical dilemmas in the acute hospital setting. The important findings in relation to palliative care is that end-of-life ethical decisions are considered most difficult in the acute setting. Also, the findings indicate that it is important to view and deal with end-of-life issues from that perspective of the acute care system as well as the palliative care system. The findings from this study are presently being published. The study is now being extended to include data collection in the Accident and Emergency department of the hospital. | | | | | | |
| **Study Methodology: (Please mark with an x which type of study methodology)** | | | | | | |
| | Epidemiology | | | | | |
| **x** | **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): Bayside Health & Central Queensland University | | | | | | |
| Has the study received ethics approval? | **x** | Yes | | No | | Not applicable |
| Project starting date: 2004 | | | | | | |
| Project completion date: 2007 | | | | | | |
| Multi site: | | Yes | **x** | No | | Not applicable |
| **RESEARCHERS** | | | | | | |
| Principle Investigator (name) | Dr Pam McGrath (CQU) | | | | | |
| Contact Details | http://www.ipp-shr.cqu.edu.au/contactus.htm<br>pam_mcgrath@bigpond.com<br>Correspondence can be mailed to:<br>International Program for Psycho-Social Health Research (IPP-SHR)<br>PO BOX 1307 | | | | | |

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|---|---|
| | Kenmore QLD 4069<br>AUSTRALIA |
| Investigator B (Name) | Dr David Hendersen (Redlands Hospital) |
| Investigator C (Name) | Mr Hamish Holewa (CQU) |
| Investigator D (Name) | |
| Investigator E (Name) | |

**Associated publications / reports:**

McGrath P., Henderson, D. Holewa H., (2006) Patient-centred Care: Qualitative Findings on Health Professionals Understanding of Ethics in Acute Medicine. *Journal of Bioethical Inquiry***,** In Press

McGrath P. & Holewa H (2006) Ethical Decision Making in an Acute Medical Ward: Australian Findings on Dealing with Conflict and Tension, *Ethics and Behavior*, 16,3

McGrath P., (2006) Multidisciplinary insights on the evolving role of the ethics committee in an Australian regional hospital, *Monash Bioethics Review* (In Press).

**Project Number 0010**

**Topics: End of Life Decision Making,**
**Settings of Palliative Care**