Introduction

The Joanna Briggs Institute for Evidence Based Nursing and Midwifery is a collaboration of organisations and individuals committed to the evidence based approach to health care. This collaboration is comprised of health care providers whose aim is to use the best available evidence to improve patient outcomes, along with researchers, who facilitate access to this evidence. The strength of the collaboration is in its ability to draw together the expertise and resources of both these groups.

This annual report for the fiscal year 1999/2000 reflects the collaborative nature of The Joanna Briggs Institute for Evidence Based Nursing and Midwifery. It details not only the achievements of the individual organisations involved but also the accomplishments of the group as a whole.
Chairman’s Report

The Joanna Briggs Institute for Evidence Based Nursing and Midwifery is now in its fourth year of operation. The year 1999/2000 has been one of transition for the Institute. The establishment phase has now been completed and an exciting period of expansion has commenced. This expansion is only possible through the ongoing commitment of the organisations and individuals that support and participate in the activities of The Joanna Briggs Institute. In the last year membership of the Institute has virtually doubled with over 100 health care organisations now active members of the Institute. Funding bodies have also demonstrated their commitment to the evidence based approach with the Department of Human Services in South Australia providing ongoing funds for the next three years to the Lead Centre in Adelaide.

The last year has also seen the founding Director of the Institute, Professor Alan Pearson, resign his position and move to LaTrobe University as Professor of Nursing. His commitment to evidence based health care however remains strong and Professor Pearson will continue his involvement with The Joanna Briggs Institute for Evidence Based Nursing and Midwifery through the establishment of an Aged Care Collaborative Centre to be based at LaTrobe University. The Centre will commence operations during 2000.

Perhaps the most tangible demonstration of how far evidence based health care has come was with the running of the 2nd Australasian Colloquium on Evidence Based Nursing and Midwifery in Brisbane in February. The Colloquium was conducted, on behalf of the Institute, by the Queensland Centre for Evidence Based Nursing and Midwifery in conjunction with the Queensland University of Technology and was well attended. Where the previous Colloquium had focused on the possibilities of the evidence based approach, presenters at this year’s event spoke of what had already been accomplished.

There remains however many challenges both for the Joanna Briggs Institute and others committed to an evidence based approach to health care. There is now a growing body of nursing focused systematic reviews. The Institute has and will continue to support nurses in developing the skills required to conduct these reviews. Additionally it is important to ensure that nurses and other health care professionals are able to access this research output. This is more than simply making the information available. It is essential that those who would use best practice information be equipped to make judgements about the quality and appropriateness of this information. Strategies to implement this information must be determined and evaluated. The Joanna Briggs Institute for Evidence Based Nursing & Midwifery is committed to working with health care professionals in pursuing this next phase in the development of evidence based health care.

Dr Leslye Long
Chair of the Board of Management
Board of Management

The Joanna Briggs Institute for Evidence Based Nursing and Midwifery (JBIEBNM) is governed by a Board of Management appointed by, and accountable to, Royal Adelaide Hospital.

The current membership of the Board (30 June 2000) is as follows:

**Dr Leslye Long**
Director of Nursing and Patient Care Services, Royal Adelaide Hospital (Chair)

**Assoc Prof Kaye Challinger**
Chief Executive Officer, Royal Adelaide Hospital

**Ms Rosemary Bryant**
Executive Director, Royal College of Nursing, Australia

**Mr Rick Wiechula**
Acting Director, The Joanna Briggs Institute for Evidence Based Nursing and Midwifery

**Dr Mary FitzGerald**
Acting Head of Department, Department of Clinical Nursing, Adelaide University

**Ms Judi Brown**
Acting Principle Nursing Advisor, South Australian Department of Human Services

**Prof Derek Frewin**
Head, Division of Health Sciences and Dean of Medicine, Adelaide University

**Ms Gail Gago**
Australian Nurses Federation

**Prof Brendon Kearney**
Director, Department of Human Services
Organisational & Management Structure

Organisational Structure

The Joanna Briggs Institute for Evidence Based Nursing and Midwifery (JBIEBNM) is an international research network with headquarters in Adelaide, South Australia. JBIEBNM operations are a collaboration of individual country or state based Centres for Evidence Based Nursing and Midwifery, with the Adelaide office serving as the state centre for South Australia. Training, consulting and research activities are managed by the country/state based Collaborating Centres, with the Adelaide office acting as the coordinating headquarters.

To facilitate strategic planning and coordination of the Institute’s activities, Directors from all the Collaborating Centres meet biannually with Lead Centre staff. In the last year the Centre Directors’ meetings were held in November 1999 and June 2000.
Management Structure

The Joanna Briggs Institute for Evidence Based Nursing and Midwifery (JBIEBNM) is controlled by the Board of Management. The Director manages daily operations of the collaboration and operations of the collaborating centres are managed by their Centre Directors.
Membership

Corporate Membership

The following list details the organisations that were corporate members as at 30th June 2000.

As members of The Joanna Briggs Institute, these organisations have made a commitment to evidence based health care, receiving information, examining their practice and implementing appropriate changes in their setting. The level of evidence based health care information provided and disseminated by The Joanna Briggs Institute is made possible by the support of these members.

The following organisations have been grouped by state or country as appropriate.

Australia
Australian College of Midwives Inc

Australian Capital Territory
Calvary Hospital
Canberra Hospital Library
John James Memorial Hospital

Hong Kong
Chinese University of Hong Kong
Prince of Wales Hospital

New South Wales
Armidale Health Service
Australian Catholic University
Calvary Hospital Wagga Wagga Inc.
Lewisham Aged Care
Northern Rivers Area Health Service
Alstonville Community Health Centre
Ballina Community Health Centre
Ballina Hospital
Bangalow Community Health Centre
Bonalbo Community Health Centre
Bonalbo District Hospital
Byron Bay Community Health Centre
Byron Bay District Hospital
Cambell Hospital - Coraki
Casino Community Health Centre
Casino Memorial Hospital
Coraki Community Health Centre
Grafton Base Hospital
Grafton Community Health Centre
Kyogle Community Health Centre
Kyogle Memorial Hospital
Lismore Adult Health Community Health Centre
Lismore Base Hospital
Lismore Child & Family Health Community Health Centre
Maclean Community Health Centre
Maclean District Hospital
Mullumbimby & District War Memorial Hospital
Mullumbimby Community Health Centre
Mawwillumbah Community Health Centre
Mawwillumbah District Hospital
Nimbin Community Health Centre
Nimbin District Hospital
Tweed Heads Community Health Centre
Tweed Heads District Hospital
Urbenville & District MPS Hospital
Urbenville Community Health Centre
Royal Rehabilitation Centre Sydney
Sacred Heart Hospice

New Zealand
Ascot Integrated Hospital
Ashburton & Community Health Services
Burwood Hospital
Healthcare Otago
Jervois Hospital and Home
Lakeland Health
Mercy Hospital
Auckland University of Technology
Auckland Healthcare Services Ltd
Northbridge Hospital
Presbyterian Support Services
School of Nursing UNITEC
South Auckland Health
Tauranga Hospital
The Princess Margaret Hospital
Waitemata Health

Northern Territory
Alice Springs Hospital
Royal Darwin Hospital
Northern Territory University

Queensland
Bayside District Health Service
Beaudesert Hospital
Bindaree Lodge
Bundaberg Base Hospital
Canossa Care Health and Residential Services
Centre for Nursing Research, QUT
Dalby Health Service District
Good Shepherd Lodge
Gympie Hospital
Health Outcomes Unit Queensland Health
Mater Misericordiae Hospitals
Mater Hospitals Bundaberg
Miles Health Service District
Prince Charles Hospital & District Health Service
Redcliffe Hospital
Rockhampton Hospital
Royal Childrens Hospital and District Health Service
St Lukes Nursing Service
University of Queensland Library
Wahroonga Retirement Village Hostel

Wesley Hospital
West Moreton District Health Services

South Australia
Ashford Hospital
Barr Smith Library
Burnside War Memorial Hospital
Calvary Hospital Adelaide Inc
Ceduna Hospital Inc
Crystal Brook District Hospital Inc.
Eastern Eyre Health & Aged Care
Flinders Medical Centre
Hamley Bridge Memorial Hospital Inc
Julia Farr Centre
Karoonda & District Soldiers Memorial Inc
Kingston Soldiers’ Memorial Hospital Inc
Laura & District Hospital Inc.
Lower Eyre Health Service
Lutheran Nursing Homes Inc
Memorial Hospital
MINDA Incorporated
Modbury Public Hospital
Mt Gambier & Districts Health Service Inc.
Noarlunga Health Services and Private Hospital
Port Adelaide Central Mission
Port Augusta Hospital and Health Service Inc.
Port Broughton District Hospital & Health Service Inc
Port Lincoln Health & Hospital Services Inc
Port Pirie Regional Health Service
Quorn & District Memorial Hospital Inc.
Repatriation General Hospital
Riverland Regional Health Service Inc
Renmark Paringa District Hospital
Waikerie Hospital & Health Service
Loxton Hospital Complex
Riverland Private Hospital
Individual Membership

In addition to corporate membership at the 30th June 2000 there were 142 individual members from a wide range of countries as listed below. The individual members are serviced directly from the Lead Centre.

Canada
Denmark
Australia
Indonesia
New Zealand
Norfolk Island
Hong Kong
Saudi Arabia
Singapore
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland
United Kingdom
United States of America

Adelaide University
Royal Adelaide Hospital
The Salvation Army
Edenfield Hostel
Linsell Lodge
Parklyn Nursing Home
Aged Care Services Network - Sunset Lodge
Southern Cross Care - Lourdes Valley Nursing Home
St Margaret’s Hospital Inc
Tregenza Avenue Aged Care Service
Western Hospital Inc
Whyalla Hospital & Health Service Inc.

United States of America
Case Western Reserve University

Victoria
Alpine Health
Austin & Repatriation Medical Centre
Ballarat Health Services
Brighton Hospital Holdings Pty Ltd
Hepburn Health Service
Jessie McPherson Private Hospital
Kiverton Park Nursing Home
Mt Alexander Hospital
Rural Northwest Health
Tallangatta District Nursing Service
Tallangatta Hospital
The University of Melbourne
Wangaratta District Base Hospital
West Gippsland Healthcare Group

Western Australia
Curtin University of Technology
King Edward Hospital for Women
Princess Margaret Hospital for Children
Carnarvon Regional Hospital
Evidence Based Research Activities

The Joanna Briggs Institute for Evidence Based Nursing and Midwifery conducts a range of evidence based research activities designed to provide health professionals with high quality best practice information and to evaluate the impact of that information.

Systematic Reviews

Systematic Reviews are the cornerstone of the evidence based approach to health care. Review topics arise from mechanisms put in place by the Collaboration to ensure that the areas of practice that are reviewed are a priority for health care professionals. The most significant source of review topics is by way of the Professional Advisory Forums that have been put in place by each of the Collaborating Centres. The Systematic Reviews published by the Institute for the 1999/2000 period are listed on the following pages.
Vital Signs
A Systematic Review, Number 4.
ISBN: 0-9586131-4-1

Reviewers
Evans, D., Hodgkinson, B. and Berry, J.

Review Panel
Ms Heidi Silverston, Ms Deb Henrys, Ms Kathy Read, Ms Lee Hussie, Mr Peter Le-Gallou, Ms Sue Edwards, Ms Annette Heinmann, Ms Hazel Morrison, Mr Lyell Brougham.

Abstract
The objective of this review was to present the best available information related to the monitoring of patient vital signs with regard to their purpose, limitations, optimal frequency of measurements, and what measures should constitute vital signs. The review also sought to identify issues of importance related to the individual parameters.

While a variety of measures may be useful additions to the traditional four vital sign parameters, only pulse oximetry and smoking status have been shown to change patient care and outcomes. While there has been considerable research undertaken on many specific aspects of vital sign measurement, there is an urgent need for further research into the more general issues such as what parameters should be measured, the optimal frequency of measurements and the role of new technology in patient monitoring.

The Effectiveness of Individual Therapy and Group Therapy in the Treatment of Schizophrenia
A Systematic Review, Number 5.
ISBN: 0-9577796-0-7

Reviewers

Review Panel
Ms Samantha Jolly, Ms Dene Iwanicki, Mr Nick Robilliard, Ms Sandra Mata, Ms Raili Tanska, Ms Irene Henley, Ms Mellanie Fernandez, Professor Robert Barrett, Ms Carol Turnbull, Mr Tony Halczuk.

Abstract
The objective of this review was to present the best available information on the use of group therapy and individual therapy in the treatment of schizophrenia. Twenty randomised controlled trials were identified addressing some component of this topic. These studies suggest that individual cognitive behavioural therapy, long term group psychotherapy or modular therapy, and activities groups may be effective in achieving specific outcomes.
Management of Short Term Indwelling Urethral Catheters to Prevent Urinary Tract Infections
A Systematic Review, Number 6.
ISBN: 0-9577796-1-5

Reviewers
Dunn, S., Pretty, L., Reid, H., Evans, D. and Silverston, H.

Review Panel
Mr Brent Hodgkinson, Ms Siew Lee, Ms Jacqui McLean, Ms Barbara Parker, Dr Jan Paterson, Ms Margaret Southwell, Ms Irene Wilkinson.

Abstract
The objective of this review is to evaluate the effectiveness of interventions used to prevent urinary catheter associated urinary tract infections. The findings of this review suggest that; catheter care should consist of good personal hygiene, sealed catheter connections should be used, and catheters should be removed as soon as possible post-operatively. The review also found that sterile surgical catheterisation procedures and the addition of antibacterial solutions to the drainage bag offer no additional protection against infection. There is some suggestion that silver-coated catheters offer some protection against catheter associated urinary tract infections, however the results are contradictory and so further research is needed.

Knowledge Retention from Pre-Operative Patient Information
A Systematic Review, Number 7.

Reviewer
Hodgkinson, B., Evans, D. and O'Neill, S.

Review Panel
Ms Cathy Davy, Ms Lyn Mercer, Ms Lee Maddern, Ms Annemarie Roche, Ms Elizabeth Williamson.

Abstract
The objective of this review was to present the best available evidence related to knowledge retention following pre-operative patient education. The findings of this review support the use of pamphlets to inform patients and to improve their skills. The use of videos as a pre-operative instruction tool has been rarely evaluated. However, existing studies suggest that videos may have a role as a component of a larger teaching method. The data suggests that the instructional method is useful for improving patient knowledge of their treatment and in improving the ability to perform and comply with required exercises. However, instruction is likely to be more effective if provided prior to admission. If teaching is to be done after admission, using a group format has been shown to be equally as effective as individual instruction.
Identification and Nursing Management of Dysphagia in Individuals with Neurological Impairment

A Systematic Review, Number 8.
ISBN: 0-9577796-3-1

Reviewers
Ramritu, P., Finlayson, K., Mitchell, A. and Croft, G.

Review Panel
Ms June Adams, Ms Cate Barrett, Ms Meagan Bell, Ms Coralle Buchanan, Ms Wendy Chaboyer, Ms Teresa Cummins, Ms Gail Dacey, Ms Mary-Kim Davidson, Ms Leigh Davis, Ms Joy Denne, Ms Vivienne Devine, Prof Glenn Gardner, Ms Sheila Grant, Ms Lee Anne Grosvenor, Ms Susan Hall, Ms Helen Kearney, Ms Catherine Kilgour, Ms Michelle Lawton, Ms Majella Leary, Ms Christine Lostroh, Ms Sally McPhee, Ms Mary Mackinnon, Ms Kate Masel, Ms Karen Mason, Ms Suzanne Morrison, Ms Karen New, Mr Tim O'Maley, Ms Judy Perrin, Mr Noel Saines, Ms Janet Sheehy, Ms Julie Shepherd, Ms Penny Simmons, Mr Geoffrey Wallace, Ms Judy Wollin.

Abstract
The objective of this review was to present the best available evidence on the nurse’s role in the identification and management of dysphagia in individuals with neurological impairment. Nurses have an important role in identifying individuals at risk of dysphagia and referring these individuals to medical and allied health professionals. In addition nurses implement therapies to maintain safe oral nutrition and hydration.

The literature on identification and management of dysphagia in children acknowledged the nurse as a member of the multi-disciplinary team and briefly mentioned a few aspects of the nursing role in management of dysphagia. Evidence from medical and allied health literature (level III and IV) was used to make recommendations for interventions in the identification and management of dysphagia. Most of the nursing literature concerning adults with dysphagia provided level III and IV evidence on many nursing interventions in the early recognition, assessment and management of dysphagia.

This systematic review identified an urgent need for primary research into the nurse’s role in the identification and management of dysphagia in children and adults. Well designed research is needed to provide high quality evidence on the most effective nursing interventions in the identification and management of dysphagia in both adults and children.
Best Practice Information Sheets

*Best Practice: Evidence Based Practice Information Sheets for Health Professionals* is published by Blackwell Science-Asia. The series compliments the systematic reviews published by The Joanna Briggs Institute and others and is aimed at base level clinicians. The series is distributed widely throughout Australia, New Zealand and Hong Kong via high circulation journals:

- Australian Journal of Rural Health
- The Australian Nursing Journal
- The Collegian
- Health & Community Services Union
- International Journal of Nursing Practice
- Kai Tiaki – Nursing New Zealand

In addition, *Best Practice Information Sheets* along with the source Systematic Review, if published by the Institute, are provided directly to health care institutions and individuals who are members of the Institute.

2000 saw an increase in *Best Practice Information Sheets* published. The *Best Practice Information Sheet, Identification and Management of Dysphagia in Children with Neurological Impairment*, was released as an additional ‘limited issue’ for members only. This information sheet can also be found in the members’ section on The Joanna Briggs Institute website (www.joannabriggs.edu.au).

In April 2000 the *Best Practice Information Sheet, Knowledge Retention from Pre-operative Patient Information*, was completed and made available only in an electronic format on our website in the members’ section. It is intended that this information sheet will be published in a hard copy format and distributed widely through journals later in 2000.

The following *Best Practice Information Sheets* have been released from July 1999 to June 2000.

Vital Signs

*Best Practice Volume 3, Issue 3, 1999*

ISSN 1329-1874
Released July 1999
Printed: 98,650
Source review: Evans, D., Hodgkinson, B. and Berry, J. 1999 *Vital Signs*, JBIEBNM, Adelaide

The Effectiveness of Individual Therapy and Group Therapy in the Treatment of Schizophrenia

*Best Practice Volume 3, Issue 4, 1999*

ISSN 1329-1874
Released October 1999
Printed: 99,150
Management of Short Term Indwelling Urethral Catheters to Prevent Urinary Tract Infection

*Best Practice* Volume 4, Issue 1, 2000
ISSN 1329-1874
Released March 2000
Printed: 99,150

Identification and Management of Dysphagia in Children with Neurological Impairment

*Best Practice* Volume 4, Issue 3, 2000
ISSN 1329-1874
Released May 2000
Printed: 10,000

Identification and Nursing Management of Dysphagia in Adults with Neurological Impairment

*Best Practice* Volume 4, Issue 2, 2000
ISSN 1329-1874
Released May 2000
Printed: 102,000
Best Practice Impact Survey

The series, Best Practice: Evidence Based Practice Information Sheets for Health Professionals, is widely disseminated in print and electronic form. The series has been targeted toward clinicians with the content and format designed for use where health care occurs. To maximise the benefit of these information sheets it is important that the Institute receives feedback about the series in order to best meet the needs of those providing health care. Toward the end of 1999 the Institute conducted an Australia wide survey of Registered Nurses seeking their views about the first six information sheets from the Best Practice series.

The Impact of Best Practice Information Sheets on Australian Registered Nurses

Investigators

Professor Alan Pearson, Mr Rick Wiechula, Mr Brent Hodgkinson.

Aims and significance of the study

The purpose of this study is to determine what impact Best Practice Information Sheets have had on registered nurses and their practice. In particular the following four questions were pursued:

1. What is the degree to which registered nurses in Australia are aware of the Joanna Briggs Institute for Evidence Based Nursing and Midwifery Best Practice series?

2. How relevant do Australian nurses consider the information contained in the Best Practice Information Sheets in regard to contemporary clinical nursing practice?

3. Have the Best Practice Information Sheets had a positive impact on clinical nursing practice in Australia?

4. How might the Best Practice Information Sheets be modified to enhance the dissemination of best practice information to Australian nurses?

Although this project targeted the Best Practice series the results have wider implications about the way best practice information is disseminated to health care professionals.

Progress:

The survey was conducted with the assistance of the nursing registering bodies in each state and territory except the ACT. A sample of 1% of all registered nurses in Australia was surveyed for their knowledge and opinions of the Best Practice series. Analysis has been completed and the results were presented at the 2nd Australasian Colloquium on Evidence Based Nursing and Midwifery held in Brisbane this year. The results indicate that the first six issues in the series have been well received by clinicians in Australia. Specific feedback about the content and format of the series will allow fine tuning of the series to better meet the needs of nurses in clinical practice.
Evaluation Cycles

The Joanna Briggs Institute for Evidence Based Nursing and Midwifery is committed to reducing variability in practice and achieving improvements in patient outcomes through an evidence based approach to health care. To assess the effectiveness of the evidence based approach to health care, The Joanna Briggs Institute for Evidence Based Nursing and Midwifery has undertaken a series of multi-site studies known as Evaluation Cycles.

The Evaluation Cycle is a staged process. In the first instance, current practice and patient outcomes relating to a given area of practice are established and documented at a number of survey sites. The second stage involves the implementation of recommendations embodied in a Best Practice Information Sheet through the various survey sites. The final stage, following implementation of the recommendations, involves again surveying all sites with the objective of measuring any changes in practice and hopefully improved patient outcomes.

Promoting Best Practice in the Prevention and Treatment of Pressure Ulcers

Evaluation Cycle Report, Number 1
ISBN: 0-9577796-4-X

Investigators
Professor Alan Pearson, Mr Rick Wiechula, Professor Rhonda Nay, Ms Ann Mitchell, Mr Brent Hodgkinson

Participant Institutions
Royal Adelaide Hospital, Mater Misericordiae Public Hospital, North West Hospital.

The prevention of pressure ulcers is a major nursing activity in all areas of health care, and the treatment of pressure sores, is largely seen as the province of the nurse in partnership with medical and paramedical workers. It remains an enduring problem made more difficult by problems of inconstant and conflicting information provided to clinicians and carers.

This study in the first instance provides valuable benchmarking data relating to the prevalence of pressure ulcers in a contemporary Australian context. Changes in patient outcomes were modest with best results achieved where a structured and responsive clinical review system was in place.

Progress
The report has been completed and distributed to members of the Institute.
Best Practice in the Management of Peripheral Intravascular Devices

Investigators
Professor Alan Pearson, Mr Rick Wiechula, Ms Ann Mitchell, Mr John McArthur, Professor Judith Parker, Professor Robin Watts, Professor Anne Chang.

Participant Institutions
Royal Adelaide Hospital, Mater Misericordiae Public Hospital, Royal Melbourne Hospital, Royal Perth Hospital, Prince of Wales Hospital, Auckland Hospital, National Women's Hospital, Greenlane Hospital.

Intravenous devices are a common and important part of hospital practice for the administration of fluid, nutrients, medications, blood products and to monitor haemodynamic status of a person. The use of intravascular devices can be complicated by a variety of local or systemic infectious complications. Catheter related infections, particularly catheter related blood stream infections, are associated with increased morbidity, mortality and prolonged hospitalisation.

The study is designed to evaluate the impact of best practice information relating to interventions for the management of peripheral intravascular devices. The study will build on previous studies in providing detail about the process of implementing best practice information.

Progress
The return survey was conducted in March 1999. Analysis has been completed.

Best Practice in the Prevention of Falls

Investigators
Professor Alan Pearson, Mr Rick Wiechula, Professor Anne Chang, Mr John McArthur, Ms Karen Lai.

Participants
Royal Adelaide Hospital, Prince of Wales Hospital, Auckland Hospital, Box Hill Hospital.

It has been estimated that one third of people aged over 65 years suffer at least one fall per year, and that patients in institutions have a higher rate of falls. The high incidence of falls has been attributed to many factors including, trauma, debilitating disease, environmental hazards, age, mental status, length of hospital stay and gender. The problem of falls in acute care has been well recognised but remains a significant problem.

This study, the third in the series will examine the impact of best practice information relating to the prevention of falls.

Progress
Data entry has been completed and analysis is currently being conducted.
Best Practice in the Prevention and Management of Mucositis

Investigators
Professor Alan Pearson, Mr Rick Wiechula, Ms Ann Mitchell

Participants
Royal Adelaide Hospital, Mater Misericordiae Public Hospital.

Oral mucositis, also called stomatitis, is a common, debilitating complication of cancer chemotherapy and radiotherapy, occurring in about 40% of patients. It results from the systemic effects of cytotoxic chemotherapeutic agents and from the local effects of radiation to the oral mucosa. Oral mucositis is inflammation of the mucosa of the mouth and ranges from redness to severe ulceration. Symptoms of mucositis vary from pain and discomfort to an inability to tolerate food or fluids. Mucositis may also limit the patient’s ability to tolerate either chemotherapy or radiotherapy. Mucositis may be so severe as to delay treatment and so limit the effectiveness of cancer therapy. Patients with damaged oral mucosa and a reduced immunity resulting from chemotherapy and radiotherapy are also prone to opportunistic infections in the mouth. The mucositis may affect patient’s gum and dental condition, speech and self esteem may also be reduced, further compromising patients’ response to treatment and/or palliative care. It is therefore extremely important that mucositis be prevented whenever possible, or at least treated to reduce its severity and possible complications.

This study is the fourth in a series of multi-site projects examining the impact of best practice information and investigating the implementation process.

Progress
The initial survey was conducted at two sites in August/September of 1999. The return survey will be conducted in late 2000.
Practice Manuals

The practice manual service has continued to generate significant interest and activity for the Institute. The primary areas of activity have been in the dissemination of generic manuals, the commencement of new corporate member practice manual revision, and completion of the process for members who began in the previous financial year.

This includes the provision of 59 generic manuals in the areas of aged and acute care, the delivery of final copy manuals to 14 corporate members who have completed the revision process, and the commencement of 14 new manuals for more recent corporate members. There has also been increased interest stimulated among long term members by the provision of generic manuals, resulting in increased activity.

Midwifery Practice Manual

A manual has been procured, and research on integrative reviews for the first chapter is complete, the review panel is nearing closure. Development of the generic midwifery practice manual has been delayed due to the level of activity generated in the areas of aged and acute care.

All of the reviews generated in the last financial year have been revisited. An explicit approach to developing an integrative review of the literature has been developed and published on the Joanna Briggs Institute web site. New reviews have been developed according to this process based on changes in the contents of practice manuals, and the overall level of evidence many reviews contain has been improved as increasing numbers of systematic reviews specific to nursing become available.
Web Site


Staff at the Lead Centre in Adelaide maintain the Joanna Briggs Institute web site.

From the main menu, guests may access a wide variety of information relevant to evidence based health care and health care in general.

Full text of Best Practice Information Sheets, links to 90 relevant Health Care sites, copies of JBIEBNM Systematic Review Protocols, contact details for the Collaboration and updates on JBIEBNM activities are available from the main menu. Additionally a free notice board, research posting facility and bookshop are available via the web site.

Collaborating Centres of the Institute have their own pages through which newsletters and items of local interest are published.

Corporate and Individual Members of the Institute can also access the password protected Member’s area. This area includes full text copies of all Systematic Reviews produced by JBIEBNM and completed Best Practice Information Sheets not yet published by Blackwell Science-Asia.

Firmly adhering to the aims and objectives of The Joanna Briggs Institute, the http://www.joannabriggs.edu.au web service provides a platform for the wide scale dissemination of Evidence Based Health Care information on an international scale.

The busiest month to date was March 2000 with (19,477 requests for pages).
Promotion of Evidence Based Practice

The Collaboration recognises that the implementation of best practice information is reliant on: access to the information, effecting a change in culture that recognises the value of the evidence based health care (EBHC) approach, and provision of mechanisms to facilitate change. To this end the Collaboration is committed to a range of educational and promotional activities highlighting the worth of the approach and equipping clinicians and organisations to effectively participate in the process.

2nd Australasian Colloquium for Evidence Based Nursing

In keeping with the Institute’s commitment to promote evidence based health care and supporting the development of this approach, the 2nd Australasian Colloquium for Evidence Based Nursing was conducted in February 2000 in Brisbane. Hosted on behalf of the Institute by the Queensland Centre for Evidence Based Nursing and Midwifery and the Queensland University of Technology, the Colloquium reflected the changes occurring in evidence based nursing in the region. There were a number of presentations by nurses who had conducted systematic reviews building on the base of evidence available. Other presenters reported on how the profession is using the evidence to implement change in practice. Clearly many health organisations are now committed to the approach and are working toward refining the processes involved.

Mater Misericordiae Childrens Hospital, Queensland
NI2000 7th International Congress of Nursing Informatics, Post Congress

In New Zealand in May 2000 the 7th International Congress of Nursing Informatics was held. In conjunction with this event a Post Congress gathering was organised to bring together leaders in the nursing informatics field. The purpose of the Post Congress was to explore issues of importance to nursing informatics and this year’s theme being the use of informatics in evidence based practice. The Joanna Briggs Institute for Evidence Based Nursing & Midwifery was represented by Rick Wiechula (Lead Centre Adelaide), Linda Johnston (Victorian Centre for Evidence Based Nursing) and John McArthur (New Zealand Centre for Evidence Based Nursing) who also organised the Post Congress. The output from this event will be published in proceedings by the International Medical Informatics Association.

A range of promotional and educational activities relating to evidence based health care have been undertaken by all collaborating centres.
Lead Centre
South Australia

Based at Royal Adelaide Hospital and Adelaide University, South Australia, the Lead Centre is the headquarters and coordinating site for the Collaboration. The following reports detail activities specific to the Lead Centre and its staff in addition to activities that have been undertaken in conjunction with other JBIEBNM Centres. This reflects the dual role of the Adelaide office as Lead Centre for the Collaboration and Centre for the state of South Australia.
Lead Centre Staff

**Director** (until 22nd October 1999)
Alan Pearson, RN, ONC, DipNursEd(CAN), DANS, MSc(Manch), PhD(London), FRCNA, FCN(NSW), FRCPA

**Acting Director and Coordinator Evaluation**
Rick Wiechula, RN, OrthoNursCert, BA(Flinders), BN(UniSA), MNSc(Adelaide), MRCNA

**Acting Deputy Director and Coordinator Reviews**
David Evans, RN, CritCareCert, DipN(Flinders), BN(Flinders), MNS(Flinders), MRCNA

**Coordinator Education and Implementation**
Kate Cameron, RN, OncNursCert, GradDipNurs(USA), MNSc(Adelaide)

**Coordinator Clinical Information**
Craig Lockwood, RN, BN(UniSA), GradDipClinicalNursing(Adelaide), MRCNA

**Coordinator Primary Research**
Kenneth Walsh RPN, RGN, BNurs(UNE), PhD(Adelaide)

**Research Officer Evaluation & Reviews**
Brent Hodgkinson BSc(Hons)(Ottawa), MSc(Ottawa)

**Communications Officer**
Anthea Court

**Manager Administration**
Roy Sneddon

**Secretary**
Annette Hoffrichter

Staff Changes

In October 1999 Professor Alan Pearson resigned his position as founding Director of The Joanna Briggs Institute and has moved to LaTrobe University as the Professor of Nursing in the School of Nursing. Professor Pearson will become the Director of the Residential Aged Care Centre of JBIEBNM, based at LaTrobe University, later in 2000.

Ms Jodi Loxton resigned her position in December 1999 after four months maternity leave. Ms Loxton had been the Communications Officer with The Joanna Briggs Institute and Department of Clinical Nursing, Adelaide University for the previous three years.

Ms Kate Cameron also resigned her position with the Institute at the end of June 2000. Ms Cameron has also been with the Institute since its inception in December 1996. She will be commencing full time study in a PhD program with the Department of Clinical Nursing, Adelaide University.
The Joanna Briggs Institute
for Evidence Based Nursing and Midwifery

Research Associates

The Research Associates participate in a range of activities for the Lead Centre. Principally they participate in review groups for Systematic Reviews providing an invaluable link to clinical practice and the organisations that utilise the best practice information provided by the Collaboration.

- Dr Andrea Averis, RN, RM, BSc(Adelaide), MSc(PHC)(Flinders), PhD(Flinders), FRCNA, FCN(NSW)
- Ms Judith Berry, RN, BNurs, MNSc(Deakin), MRCNA
- Dr Sally Borbasi, RN, RMRN CritCareCert, DipT(Nur)(ACAE) BEd, MA(Ed), PhD, MRCNA
- Ms Marg Cattonar, RN, BNurs, MNSc(Adelaide)
- Mr Barry Dudley, RN, BNurs
- Mr John Field, RN, BLegSt(Macquarie), ADNE(Cumberland), GradCertManag(UNE), FCN(NSW), FRCNA
- Dr Mary FitzGerald, RN, DipNurs(London), MNurs(Wales), PhD(UENE), FRCNA
- Ms Helen Jeffrey, RN, BNurs, MNSc(Adelaide)
- Ms Leonie Lambert RN, DipAppSc(Nurs), DipAppSc(NursManag), BNurs(SACAE)
- Dr Leslye Long, RN, CritCareCert, CorCareCert, DipAppSc(Nurs)(SACAE), BAppSc(Nurs)(SACAE), MHA(UNSW), PhD(Flinders), MRCNA
- Ms Lorraine Maguire, RN, BBus(HAdmin)
- Dr Helen McCutcheon, RN, RM, BA(Adelaide), MHP(Adelaide), PhD(UNSA)
- Dr Bart O’Brien, RN, DipAppSc(Nurs)(Flinders), BNurs(Flinders), PhD(Deakin), MRCNA
- Ms Ann O’Donnell RN, RPN, DipAppSc(Nurs)(Flinders), BNurs(Flinders), Grad Dip HCouns(UNSA), ANZCHN, AFCHSE, CPE
- Ms Sue O’Neill, RN, BNurs, MNSc(Adelaide)
- Ms Robyn Parkes, RN, BNurs
- Ms Kathleen Read, RN, CritCareCert, IntCareCert, DipAppSc(NursManag)(SACAE), BNurs(SACAE), MNSc(Adelaide)
- Ms Heidi Silverston, RN, OncNursCert, BNurs(Flinders), CHE
- Ms Jackie Wood, RN, BNurs
Staff Involvement in Adelaide University and Royal Adelaide Hospital Activities

In addition to core activities of The Joanna Briggs Institute for Evidence Based Nursing and Midwifery that are detailed in this report, staff of the Lead Centre are involved in a range of supplementary activities within Adelaide University and Royal Adelaide Hospital that reinforce the collaborative nature of this joint venture.

Professor Alan Pearson

Adelaide University activities;

Professor Alan Pearson was Head of the Department of Clinical Nursing. He chaired the Departmental Committee, and was a member of the Academic Board, the Advisory Committee for Nursing Studies, the Research and Higher Degrees Sub-Committee, the Curriculum and Academic Review Committee and, is a member of the University Research Policy and Grants Committee. He was also responsible for Honours Degree studies. Since taking up his position with LaTrobe University in October 1999, Professor Pearson maintains association with Adelaide University as Adjunct Professor of Clinical Nursing.

Royal Adelaide Hospital activities;

Professor Pearson was a member the Nursing Executive Committee.

Mr Rick Wiechula

Adelaide University activities;

Mr Wiechula is a Clinical Lecturer in the Department of Clinical Nursing. Principal activities within the Department include supervision of Honours and Masters students, and Clinical Title Holders undertaking the course, Clinical Effectiveness. Mr Wiechula has contributed to teaching in the following courses: Graduate Diploma in Emergency Nursing, Graduate Diploma in Peri-Operative Nursing and Doctor of Nursing. He is a member of the Departmental Committee, Research and Higher Degrees Sub Committee, and is the JBIEBNM nominee for the Departmental Professional Advisory Committee.

Mr Wiechula is the Department of Clinical Nursing’s representative on Adelaide University, China Reference Group. He also supervises the arrangements for the Joan Durdin Oration.

Royal Adelaide Hospital activities;

Mr Wiechula is a member of Quality Council, Nursing and Patient Care Services and the Clinical Practice Unit Working Party. He has been researcher for the Wound Care Practice Manual Working Parties. Mr Wiechula has provided lectures in the Surgical Assistants course and presented papers at Nursing Forum.
Mr David Evans

Adelaide University activities;
Mr Evans is a Clinical Lecturer in the Department of Clinical Nursing. He acts as an advisor to Doctor of Nursing students who are undertaking systematic reviews through The Joanna Briggs Institute. He has supervised one Honours student and two Masters students during the past year. He has also contributed to teaching in the Doctor of Nursing.

Royal Adelaide Hospital activities;
Mr Evans has provided support for Royal Adelaide Hospital staff during the development of research proposals as part of the Clinical Effectiveness Course.

Ms Kate Cameron

Adelaide University activities;
Ms Cameron was responsible for coordinating the Graduate Diploma of Oncology Nursing. She developed and taught the subjects Nursing and Medical Science in Oncology I & II and updated and taught Oncology Nursing I & II. She supervises students undertaking the Clinical Effectiveness Course and has contributed to teaching in the Graduate Diploma in Emergency Nursing, the Graduate Diploma in Orthopaedic Nursing, and in the subject Developing Advanced Nursing Practice in Contemporary Health Systems I. She is responsible for developing and coordinating short courses in cancer nursing. She has provided lectures at hospitals, in metropolitan and rural regions on cytotoxic chemotherapy administration. She was involved in teaching and assessing (OSCE) in the third year medical students program and is a member of the Practice Advisory Committee.

Royal Adelaide Hospital Activities
Ms Cameron was involved in development of the RCT proposal investigating the efficacy of interventions to prevent and treat oral mucositis in patients with cancer. Ms Cameron has been involved as a researcher for the Oral Mucositis and Patient Movement Unit of Care Reviews conducted at Royal Adelaide Hospital. She has been involved in teaching various aspects of oncology nursing in Royal Adelaide Hospital in conjunction with Staff Development Department education programs (also conducted at the Hampstead Site) and chairs the Oncology Course Advisory Committee. Ms Cameron has provided regular updates on evidence based nursing and presented the findings of specific systematic reviews at Royal Adelaide Hospital, and also at the Hampstead and Glenside sites.
Mr Craig Lockwood

Adelaide University activities;

Mr Craig Lockwood is a member of the Departmental Committee and is an Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE) examiner for the 3rd year Medical Students program. He is also a Clinical Title Holder for Adelaide University. He is a member of the research and higher degrees sub committee.

Royal Adelaide Hospital activities;

Mr Craig Lockwood has an ongoing function as researcher for working parties on unit of care (UOC) reviews. He has assisted in the completion of UOC reviews and the redevelopment of Excelcare units of care. Other research activities include performing integrative reviews on an as needed basis for corporate members, nurse clinicians and administrative staff of Royal Adelaide Hospital.

Mr Brent Hodgkinson

Adelaide University activities;

Mr Hodgkinson is an Affiliate Lecturer with Adelaide University and has provided guidance on quantitative research design for several honours, post graduate and graduate diploma nursing students.

Mr Hodgkinson has also given lectures on the design of randomised control trials for graduate diploma students.

In addition to the range of activities performed by individual staff of the Institute, JBIENM has provided financial and professional support to Doctoral students of Adelaide University undertaking systematic reviews.
Dr Kenneth Walsh

Adelaide University activities;

Dr Kenneth Walsh is a Lecturer in the Department of Clinical Nursing. He chairs the Academic Progress Committee, and is a member of the Departmental Committee. In addition Dr Walsh is a member of the Bachelor of Health Science Committee, the Grants and Personnel Sub-Committee of the Faculty of Health Science Research Committee and is the Adelaide University Representative on the Expert Panel for the Nurses’ Board of South Australia. Dr Walsh coordinates Postgraduate Diplomas in Community Psychiatric Nursing (which is an award offered in collaboration with the University of South Australia, Flinders University of South Australia and the South Australian Health Commission) and Clinical Nursing; the Graduate Certificates in Retrieval Nursing, Apheresis Nursing and Hyperbaric Nursing and the Bachelor of Health Science (Honours) program. He also contributes to teaching in a number of other courses including the 3rd year Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) clinical skills program. Dr Walsh Coordinates the Master of Nursing Science program and the Doctor of Nursing subject Predicting, Critiquing and Visioning in Nursing. He also supervises a number of PhD, Doctor of Nursing and Master of Nursing Science students.

Royal Adelaide Hospital activities;

Dr Walsh is involved in Units of Care (UOC) reviews and contributes to staff development teaching in Royal Adelaide Hospital, Eastern Community Mental Health Services and Statewide Mental Health Services. Dr Walsh has been involved in collaborative research with Royal Adelaide Hospital staff in the areas of attempted suicide by overdose, patterns of nursing care and models of clinical supervision. He is a member of the clinical supervision group at Eastern Community Mental Health, Enfield, the Research Committee of Eastern Community Mental Health Service and the Transcultural Mental Health Network of South Australia.
Notable Professional and Community Activities

Professor Alan Pearson
Fellow, Institute of Nurse Executives
Fellow, NSW College of Nursing
Fellow, Royal College of Nursing, Australia
Fellow, Royal College of Nursing (UK)
Member, Association for Australian Rural Nurses
Member, Australian Association of Gerontology
Member, Australian Council of Deans of Nursing Inc.
Member, Australian Nurses Federation
Member, Australian Society of Authors
Member, External Advisory Committee, Health Outcomes Unit, South Australian Health Commission
Member, Editorial Advisory Board, Australian Journal of Gerontology
Member, Editorial Advisory Board, Australian Journal of Holistic Nursing
Member, Editorial Advisory Board, Collegian
Member, Editorial Advisory Board, Contemporary Nurse
Member, Editorial Advisory Board, Health Sciences and Nursing
Member, Editorial Advisory Board, Lincoln Papers in Gerontology
Member, Editorial Advisory Board, Journal of Holistic Nursing
Member, Ethics Committee, The Adelaide Clinic
Member, Executive Committee, Nurse Leaders Forum, Royal College of Nursing, Australia (SA Chapter)
Member, Geriaction
Member, International Editorial Advisory Board, Journal of Advanced Nursing
Member, International Editorial Advisory Board, Journal of Clinical Nursing
Member, International Editorial Advisory Board, Journal of Nursing Management
Member, International Editorial Advisory Board, Social Science Research in Health
Member, Nursing Workforce Planning Committee, South Australian Health Commission
Member, Planning Team for the 3rd, 4th and 5th Nursing Practice Conference
Member, Scientific and Research Advisory Committee, Continence Foundation Australia
Member, South Australian Health Commission, Transplant Advisory Committee: Adelaide
Chairperson, Aged Care Complaints Scheme, Commonwealth Department of Health and Aged Care
Editor, International Journal of Nursing Practice (Blackwell Science)
External Examiner, Department of Nursing, Chinese University of Hong Kong
External Examiner, Open University of Hong Kong
Grant Application Assessor, Australian Research Council
Grant Application Assessor, CAUT, National Teaching Development Grants
Grant Application Assessor, Healthway Grants, Western Australia, WA.
Grant Application Assessor, National Health and Medical Research Council
Grant Application Assessor, Women’s & Children’s Hospital Research Foundation
Patron, Barwon Region Nursing Research Association Inc.
Theses Examiner, Flinders University of South Australia
Theses Examiner, LaTrobe University
Theses Examiner, Monash University
Theses Examiner, Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology
Theses Examiner, University of Queensland
Theses Examiner, University of Tasmania
Theses Examiner, University of Woolongong

Mr Rick Wiechula
Committee Member, South Australian Wound Management Association
Member, Australian Nursing Federation
Member, Australian Wound Management Association
Member, Australian Wound Management Association, Pressure Ulcer Interest Sub Committee
Member, Royal Adelaide Hospital Nurse Education Fund
Member, Royal College of Nursing Australia
Member, South Australian Wound Management Association
Peer Reviewer, International Journal of Nursing Practice
Member, Editorial Board, Primary Intention
Webmaster, South Australian Wound Management Association

Ms Kate Cameron
Executive Committee Member, Cancer Nurses Society of Australia (SA Representative)
Committee Member, South Australian Oncology Group
Member, Australian Nursing Federation
Member, Clinical Oncological Society of Australia
Member, NSW Intravenous Nursing Association
Member, Royal Adelaide Hospital Nurses Education Fund
Grant Application Assessor, Queensland University of Technology
Reviewer, International Journal of Nursing Practice

Mr Craig Lockwood
Member, Australian Nursing Federation
Member, Royal Adelaide Hospital Nurse Education Fund
Member, Royal College of Nursing Australia

Dr Kenneth Walsh
Member, Australian and New Zealand College of Mental Health Nurses
Member, Royal College of Nursing
Peer Reviewer, The Australian & New Zealand Journal of Mental Health Nursing
Peer Reviewer, International Journal of Nursing Practice
Theses Examiner, University of New England
Theses Examiner, University of South Australia
Theses Examiner, University of Tasmania
Theses Examiner, Flinders University
Theses Examiner, RMIT

Mr Brent Hodgkinson
Peer Reviewer, International Journal of Nursing Practice

Ms Kate Cameron
Executive Committee Member, Cancer Nurses Society of Australia (SA Representative)
Committee Member, South Australian Oncology Group
Member, Australian Nursing Federation
Member, Clinical Oncological Society of Australia
Member, NSW Intravenous Nursing Association
Member, Royal Adelaide Hospital Nurses Education Fund
Grant Application Assessor, Queensland University of Technology
Reviewer, International Journal of Nursing Practice

Mr Craig Lockwood
Member, Australian Nursing Federation
Member, Royal Adelaide Hospital Nurse Education Fund
Member, Royal College of Nursing Australia

Dr Kenneth Walsh
Member, Australian and New Zealand College of Mental Health Nurses
Member, Royal College of Nursing
Peer Reviewer, The Australian & New Zealand Journal of Mental Health Nursing
Peer Reviewer, International Journal of Nursing Practice
Theses Examiner, University of New England
Theses Examiner, University of South Australia
Theses Examiner, University of Tasmania
Theses Examiner, Flinders University
Theses Examiner, RMIT

Mr Brent Hodgkinson
Peer Reviewer, International Journal of Nursing Practice
Staff Development

Mr Rick Wiechula is currently enrolled in the Doctor of Nursing with Adelaide University. In December 1999 he completed the short course, Economic Evaluation in Health Care at the University of Western Australia.

Mr David Evans is currently a PhD candidate with Adelaide University.

Ms Kate Cameron was awarded a PhD scholarship by the Anti-Cancer Foundation of South Australia in 2000 and will begin her candidature in August 2000.

Mr Craig Lockwood is currently enrolled in the Master of Nursing Science with Adelaide University. In December 1999 he completed the short course, Economic Evaluation in Health Care at the University of Western Australia.

Significant Events

The 3rd Practice Advisory Forum meeting was held in March 2000 at Memorial Hospital to report to corporate members on The Joanna Briggs Institute activities. Potential systematic review topics were discussed and four selected for the forthcoming year. The topics selected were:

- Temperature management during the peri-operative period.
- Management of subluxation of shoulder post neurological event.
- Effectiveness of programs aimed at preventing suicide.
- Care-giver support for women during childbirth.

This meeting was well attended and supported by corporate members.
Notable Visitors to the Institute

Health service professionals and scholars:

**Ms Rosemary Bryant**
(1999 Joan Durdin Orator)
Director of Nursing Policy and Planning, Department of Health, Victoria

**Ms Maureen Coombs**
Senior Sister Intensive Therapy Unit, John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford, UK

**Ms Ann Dillon**
Senior Sister Intensive Therapy Unit, Portsmouth Hospital, Portsmouth, UK

**Professor Colin Holmes**
Professor, University of Western Sydney, New South Wales

**Professor Alison Kitson**
Professor of Nursing and Director of the Royal College of Nursing Institute, UK

**Ms Kathy Lee**
General Manager (Nursing), Tung Wah Hospital

**Ms Kathleen McLean**
Clinical Nurse Consultant, Glasgow Royal Infirmary, Scotland

**Professor Rhonda Nay**
Professor of Gerontological Nursing LaTrobe University, Melbourne

**Professor Mike Nolan**
Research Dean and Professor of Gerontological Nursing, University of Sheffield, School of Nursing and Midwifery, Sheffield, UK

**Professor Cynthia Stuhlmiller**
Professor of Mental Health Nursing Flinders University of South Australia

**Ms Anne Wilson**
Nurse Manager, Researcher, Glasgow Royal Infirmary, Scotland

**Ms Betty Wong**
Patient Relation Officer, Prince of Wales Hospital, Hong Kong
Systematic Reviews

The following Systematic reviews have been completed by the Lead Centre during the 1999/2000 financial year.

Vital Signs

The Effectiveness of Individual Therapy and Group Therapy in the Treatment of Schizophrenia

Management of Short Term Indwelling Urethral Catheters to Prevent Urinary Tract Infections

Knowledge Retention from Pre-Operative Patient Information

For further details of these reviews please refer to pages 10-11.

Systematic reviews still in progress are detailed below.

Management of Hydration in the Elderly

Reviewer

Hodgkinson, B., Evans, D. and Wood, J.

Review Panel

Ms Jackie Wood, Ms Bronwyn Jones, Ms Julie Devey, Ms Margaret McLean, Ms Hillary Spacey, Mr Sam Goodes, Ms Viv Turner, Ms Raquel Kneebone.

Abstract

Dehydration is one of the most common problems in elderly patients. The risks of dehydration are many and severe. Dehydration creates electrolyte disturbances that can affect the functioning of numerous organs including the heart, kidneys, and nervous system. The possible results are physical discomfort and suffering, mental confusion and organ failure that can eventuate in the death of the person.

Research into the management of hydration in the elderly has been varied and as yet there is no literature to summarise the available evidence. Therefore, this systematic review was initiated to identify then summarise the best available research evidence related to maintaining hydration in the elderly.

The review highlighted the deficiency in any rigorous research into the management of hydration in the elderly. From numerous studies, risk factors and methods of assessment were examined and evaluated.

The Management of Acute Confusion in Hospital

Reviewer

Hodgkinson, B., Evans, D. and Lambert, L.

Review Panel

Ms Carol Moore, Ms Jackie Wood, Ms Mandy Glover, Ms Bronwyn Langman, Mr Craig Rawson, Ms Anne Hill, Mrs Paula Butterworth, Ms Julie Mead, Ms Angela Little and Dr Phillipa Hay.

Abstract

The three objectives of this review are to evaluate interventions used in the management of the confused patient in acute care hospitals, to evaluate assessment tools developed for use with confused patients, and to identify factors associated with increased likelihood of developing acute confusion during hospitalisation.
Evaluation Cycles

The following Evaluation Cycle has been completed.

Promoting Best Practice in the Prevention and Treatment of Pressure Ulcers

For more detail regarding this study please refer to page 16.

The following Evaluation Cycles are being coordinated by the Lead Centre:

Best Practice in the Management of Peripheral Intravascular Devices

Best Practice in the Prevention of Falls

Best Practice in the Prevention and Management of Mucositis

For more detail regarding these studies please refer to pages 17-18.
Consultancies

The expertise of the research staff of the Lead Centre is now well recognised. As a result the Centre has been approached by a number of individuals and organisations to conduct consultancies of research projects relating to Evidence Based Health Care (EBHC). The following are reports of consultancies undertaken during 1999/2000.

Smoking Cessation Interventions and Strategies for Hospitalised Patients: An Evidence Based Integrative Review

Consultant Reviewers/Researchers
Mr Rick Wiechula, Mr Craig Lockwood.

This consultancy for an evidence based integrative review was commissioned by Mr Andrew Zoerner, Director, Health Promotions Unit, Royal Adelaide Hospital.

The aim of this review was to establish what were the most effective interventions for smoking cessation that may be applied in a hospital setting. A large number of high quality systematic reviews were identified. These reviews were assessed for inclusion criteria and quality and the result synthesised using a narrative summary. The methodology developed by Joanna Briggs Institute for Evidence Based Nursing and Midwifery staff has the potential to be used widely as the number and breadth of systematic reviews published increases.

Systematic Review of Models of Undergraduate Clinical Education, Nursing Curricula and Transition Support for New Graduates

Consultant Reviewers/Researchers
Dr Mary FitzGerald, Prof Jan Pincombe, Dr Helen McCutcheon, Mr David Evans, Mr Rick Wiechula.

This consultancy for a systematic review was commissioned by the Queensland Nursing Council and is being conducted by The Department of Clinical Nursing and The Joanna Briggs Institute for Evidence Based Nursing and Midwifery. The consultancy was commenced in June 1999 and is due for completion in January of 2001.
Primary Research

The Institute is undertaking primary research in areas where its systematic reviews indicate a lack of high quality research evidence and in areas of strategic value to the Institute. Following on from the systematic reviews that have been completed to date, the Institute has identified several areas needing further research. Proposals related to these areas were submitted for funding to a variety of sources in 1999. A series of new and revised proposals have been submitted in 2000 for possible funding in 2001. The proposals are as follows:

NHMRC

Comparing the Effectiveness of Full versus Half versus No Bedrails in the Prevention of Falls

A randomised control trial. Funding of approximately $135,000 requested over two years.

Investigators: Prof A Pearson, Dr H McCutcheon.

The Effect of Staff Education on the Incidence and Sequelae of Patient Falls in an Acute Hospital

Funding of approximately $240,000 over three years.

Investigators: Prof A Pearson, Mr D Evans, Mr B Hodgkinson, Dr M FitzGerald.

The Prevention of Repeat Falls in a Sample of Acute Hospitals and Residential Aged Care Facilities in Victoria and South Australia

Funding of approximately $240,000 over three years.

Investigators: Prof A Pearson, Dr M FitzGerald, Mr R Wiechula, Mr D Evans, Prof H Cox.

A Comparison of Mouthwashes in the Treatment of Chemotherapy Induced Oral Mucositis

Funding of approximately $84,000 over two years.

Investigators: Prof A Pearson, Dr K Walsh, Dr L Long, Ms K Cameron.

Developing Approaches to Using Qualitative Research in Evidence Based Practice

Funding of approximately $155,000 over three years.

Investigators: Prof A Pearson, Prof A Street, Mr D Evans, Dr T McCann.
NHMRC – New Investigator Grants

The Efficacy of Vital Signs in the Early Detection of Adverse Events for Post Operative Patients

A randomised control trial. Funding of approximately $74,000 requested over two years.

Investigators: Dr H McCutcheon, Dr K Walsh, Dr M FitzGerald.

ARC

Exploration of Wellness of People within the Context of a Chronic Illness.

Funding of approximately $71,490 over two years.

Investigators: Prof T Koch, Prof A Pearson, Dr M FitzGerald.

A Survey of Meal-Time Practice in Victorian and South Australian Nursing Homes

Funding of $256,000 over three years.

Investigators: Prof A Pearson, Dr M FitzGerald.

SPIRT Grants

Consumer Involvement in the Health Care System: The Development of a Response Model for a Large Tertiary Hospital

Funding of $190,507 over three years.

Investigators: Dr M FitzGerald, Associate Prof K Challinger, Dr H McCutcheon.

The Identification, Development and Evaluation of Consumer, Funder, and Provider-Sensitive Key Performance Indicators for Public Acute Care Hospitals

Funding of $512,402 over three years.

Investigators: Prof A Pearson, Dr M FitzGerald, Associate Prof K Challinger, Dr K Walsh.

Patient Satisfaction: The Development and Evaluation of a Hospital Patient Satisfaction Survey.

Funding of $70,767 over three years.

Investigators: Dr M FitzGerald, Associate Prof K Challinger.

Other

The Efficacy of Low Intensity Infrared Laser Radiation in the Treatment of Radiotherapy Induced Oral Mucositis.

A pilot study.

Investigators: Dr K Walsh, Mr R Wiechula, Dr L Long, Dr I Olver, Dr T Van Dorn.
Publications

The following are publications released by The Joanna Briggs Institute, staff and research associates during 1999/2000.

Systematic Reviews


Evaluation Cycle Report


Best Practice Information Sheets


Monographs/Books and Research Reports

Averis A (ed). 1999, Compendium of Nursing Research and Practice: Royal Adelaide Hospital and Department of Clinical Nursing, Adelaide University, Adelaide.


Pearson A, FitzGerald M, Walsh K, Long L, Borbasi S and Heinrich N. 1999, Patterns of Nursing Care, Adelaide University Nursing Research Monograph Series, Adelaide University, Adelaide.
**Journal Articles**


**Newsletters**

The Joanna Briggs Institute *Bulletin* is published quarterly and is disseminated to Corporate and Individual Members as well as being used as a promotional tool.

The *Bulletin* highlights significant achievements, promotes the centres across Australia and overseas and keeps members up to date on the progress of the Institute.

Newsletters were printed and disseminated in:
- September 1999
- November 1999
- March 2000
- June 2000
Conferences/Presentations

Cameron, K., Evidence Based Nursing and Implementation. Generating and Using Research Findings to Achieve ‘Best Practice’, Symposium, Royal Adelaide Hospital, 11-15 October 1999.


Evans, D. What is the Evidence. The Inaugural Institute of Continuing Education Conference, Glenelg, 31 March to 2 April, 2000.


Walsh, K. Humanism and Existentialism as a Basis of a New Model of Advanced Practice Assessment and Interpretation in Mental Health Nursing: Resurrecting the Lost Soul of Psychiatric Nursing. The Fifth Nursing Practice Conference, Glenelg, South Australia, November 1999.


Wiechula, R. The Impact of Best Practice Information Sheets. The 2nd Australasian Colloquium for Evidence Based Nursing and Midwifery, Brisbane, February 2000.


The Joanna Briggs Institute exhibited at the following conferences

Fifth Nursing Practice Conference, Adelaide, November 1999.


Workshops/Courses

Mr David Evans
Conducted Systematic Reviews of Nursing Research - 2 half-day workshops, 2nd Australasian Colloquium for Evidence Based Nursing and Midwifery, Brisbane, February 2000.
Conducted An Introduction to Systematic Reviews - 1 day workshop, LaTrobe University, April 2000.
Conducted Systematic Reviews of Nursing Research - 3 day workshop, LaTrobe University, April 2000.
Conducted Systematic Reviews of Nursing Research - 2 one day workshops, Royal Childrens Hospital, Brisbane, May 2000.
Conducted Systematic Reviews of Nursing Research - 1 day workshop, Mater Hospitals, Brisbane, May 2000.

Ms Kate Cameron
Presented Introductory Workshops on Evidence Based Nursing and Midwifery, Rotorua, Auckland, Christchurch and Dunedin Hospitals, New Zealand, July 1999.
Presented Advanced Oncology Nursing Practice in the Haematology/Oncology Nursing Program, Flinders Medical Centre, Adelaide. September 1999.
Presented on Evidence Based Nursing Practice at Port Pirie Regional Health Service and Laura & District Hospital Inc. September 1999.
Co-facilitated and presented a Chemotherapy Administration workshop held in Alice Springs Hospital, Territory Health Services. November 1999.
Presented on Evidence Based Nursing at Prince Charles Hospital, Brisbane. February 2000.
Guest speaker at the South Australian Oncology Group, on the Cancer Nurses Society of Australia. February 2000.
Invited speaker ‘Evidence Based Nursing’ Education Seminar, International Nurses Day, Princess Margaret Hospital, Christchurch. May 2000.
Presented Conducting Promotional and Educational Evidence Based Nursing and Midwifery Workshops, for and education and support provided to staff members, Victorian JBI Centre, March 2000.
Introductory Workshops on Evidence Based Nursing and Midwifery for corporate members in metropolitan and regional areas.
Craig Lockwood

Presented *An Overview and Introduction to the Use of an Evidence Based Practice Manual* Ashford Hospital, Adelaide, October 1999.


Brent Hodgkinson

Conducted *Conducting a Systematic Review*

Half and 1 day workshops, Royal Darwin Hospital, October 1999.

Conducted *Conducting a Systematic Review*

Half and 1 day workshops, Alice Springs Hospital, March 2000.
Financial Statement

The Joanna Briggs Institute for Evidence Based Nursing and Midwifery

Profit and Loss Statement

Year Ending 30 June 2000

Revenue

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Revenue Raised

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Less Operating Expenses

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**Operating Profit (Loss)** | **$26,225.53** |
The Hong Kong Centre for Evidence Based Nursing and Midwifery

Department of Nursing
The Chinese University of Hong Kong
July 1999 - June 2000

Centre Staff

Director
Professor Anne Chang

Deputy Director
Professor Janita Chau

Core Team/Management Committee
Professor Sally Chan
Professor Alex Molassiotis
Ms Betty Wong
Dr Sheila Twinn
Ms Becky Ho
Ms Rossini Lam
Ms Idy Lee

Advisory Panel
Professor Anne Mackenzie, Chairman & Head of Dept. of Nursing Chinese University of Hong Kong
Professor Anne Chang, Director of the Hong Kong Centre for Evidence Based Nursing and Midwifery
Professor T.F. Fok, Associate Dean, Faculty of Medicine, Chinese University of Hong Kong
Dr Clarke Hazlett, Director of Educational Services, Faculty of Medicine

Ms Hermia Ho, General Manager Nursing, Prince of Wales Hospital
Dr William Wong, Clinical Coordinator, Prince of Wales Hospital
Mr Victor Chow, Principal, School of Nursing, Prince of Wales Hospital
Dr Dickson Chang, Deputy Director, Hospital Authority
Ms Susie Lum, Senior Executive Manager, Nursing, Hospital Authority
Mr Michael Ho, Legislative Council Member, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region
Ms Betty Woo, Chief Nursing Officer, Dept. of Health, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

Management Committee
Professor Anne Chang
Ms Peggy Chan, Ward Manager, Prince of Wales Hospital
Professor Sally Chan, Dept. of Nursing, Chinese University of Hong Kong
Professor Janita Chau, Dept. of Nursing, Chinese University of Hong Kong
Ms Karen Cheung, Nurse Specialist, NICU, Prince of Wales Hospital
Professor Lam Lai Wah, Dept. of Nursing, Chinese University of Hong Kong
Ms Rossini Lam, Nursing Officer, Surgical Dept., Prince of Wales Hospital
Ms Idy Lee, Nurse Specialist, Oncology, Prince of Wales Hospital
Professor Valerie Levy, Dept. of Nursing, Chinese University of Hong Kong
Significant Events

There have been four meetings of the Management Committee and one meeting of the Advisory Panel of the Hong Kong Centre for Evidence Based Nursing and Midwifery. The main activities have been concerned with education of nurses in Hong Kong and in our partner hospital – Prince of Wales Hospital (PWH) and in the wider Hong Kong nursing community and in the implementation of evidence based health care in the clinical setting.

Planning for Workshop to introduce specific Best Practice Information Sheets to the Hong Kong nursing community. The first workshop will be in February 2000 on Prevention and Management of Pressure Sores.

Participation in literature search for studies examining the process of critical analysis of systematic reviews. Clarification of how this can be used to develop guidelines for nurses is needed.

Evidence Based Research

Systematic Reviews

“Effects of exercise on post-operative outcomes of adults” is currently at the data extraction stage of the review process. Due to staff changes the completion of this review has to be postponed until 2000. The data extraction process should be completed by February and the development of the Best Practice Information Sheet will follow.

Implementation of Best Practice Information Sheets

The Deputy Director of the Hong Kong Centre is a member of the newly established subcommittee for the implementation of Best Practice Information Sheets in the Prince of Wales Hospital. Strategies for implementation such as development of protocols and education programmes are being prepared for the implementation of a series of Best Practice Information Sheets.

Evaluation Cycles

Participation in the final stage of the evaluation cycle for the Best Practice Information Sheet for Falls was completed in October 1999.

A study on the evaluation of mucositis best practice Information has commenced.
Completed Research Projects


Project Commenced


Publications


Lui, H.L., Lee, T.F.D. and Mackenzie, A.E. Accepted for Publication, Community Care of Chinese Elderly in Hong Kong. *Australasian Journal on Ageing*.


Molassiotis, A. Accepted for Publication, Fatigue Patterns in Chinese Patients Receiving Chemotherapy. *European Journal of Oncology Nursing*.

Molassiotis, A. Accepted for Publication, The Effects of hydrocolloid dressing and gentian violet on radiation-induced moist desquamation wound healing. *Cancer Nursing*.

Molassiotis, A., Chan, C.W.H. and Yam, B. Accepted for Publication, Quality of Life in Chinese Women with Gynaecological Cancers. *Journal Supportive Care in Cancer*.

Ng, D.T.F., Chan, S. and Mackenzie, A.E. Accepted for Publication, Case Management in the Community Psychiatric Nursing Service in Hong Kong: Describing the Process. *Perspectives in Psychiatric Care*.

Shiu, A.T.Y. Accepted for Publication, Fear of Hypoglycaemia among Insulin-Treated Hong Kong Chinese Patients: Implications for Diabetes Patient Education. *Patient Education and Counselling*.


Wills, B. and Wootton, Y. 1999, Concerns and Misconceptions about Pain among Hong Kong Chinese Patients with Cancer. *Cancer Nursing*, 22(6), 408-413.
Conferences/Presentations


**Workshops/Courses**

Seminar on Evidence Based Nursing and Midwifery for Senior Nursing Staff at partner hospital (Prince of Wales Hospital), 11th October 1999.


Another seminar for Implementing Best Practice in mental health nursing is being planned for later in 2000. The intention is to have a minimum of 3 seminars per year on the implementation of different *Best Practice* Information Sheets.
The New Zealand Centre for Evidence Based Nursing

Auckland Healthcare and Auckland University of Technology
July 1999 - June 2000

Centre Staff

Director
John McArthur

Deputy Director
Ms Heather Baker

Core Team Members
Ms Ann McKillop
Ms Dianne Marshall
Ms Cheryl Kirkess
Ms Lesley Powell
Mrs Sidney Cuthbertson
Ms Catherine Tracy
Mrs Samantha Heath
Research Associates
Mr Andrew Jull
Ms Prue Bell
Ms Jane Brosnahan
Advisory Panel
Ms Mia Carroll (Chair)
Ms Gill Stokes
Professor Norman Sharpe
Ms Mata Forbes
Ms Wendy Bunker
John McArthur (ex-officio)
Heather Baker (ex-officio)

New Zealand Guidelines Group Board

Following the resignation of Mia Carroll on the New Zealand Guidelines Group Board, John McArthur has been appointed to this Board.

Notable Visitors

Professor Alison Kitson, Royal College of Nursing (UK), Florence Nightingale Scholarship.
Significant Events

May 2000 - Participation in NI2000 PostCongress

The NI2000 PostCongress was held 3-6th May in the Bay of Plenty following the 7th Nursing Informatics Congress in Auckland. The focus was Health Informatics as the basis for evidence-based practice through pathways and outcomes management. This working conference saw 34 invited delegates from around the world (NZ, Australia, UK, Japan, Belgium, USA, Finland, Singapore, Korea, Canada, The Netherlands, Sweden, Brazil, and Norway) with expertise in health informatics and evidence-based practice and/or clinical pathways present and work on the conference theme. The premise of the conference was that informatics provides an essential foundation for evidence-based practice. That informatics supports building of evidence related to practice, the accessing of evidence for practice, and the application of evidence to practice across the continuum of care. Informatics building blocks for evidence-based practice include:

• Standardised terminologies and outcome measures.
• Standards for the transmission of data, information, and knowledge in a computer-understandable fashion with appropriate protection for confidentiality.
• Techniques for accessing, applying, and evaluating the evidence in a specific care situation.

The PostCongress was chaired by John McArthur, New Zealand Centre for Evidence Based Nursing and had Dr Linda Johnston from the Victorian Centre for Evidence Based Nursing and Rick Wiechula, Director The Joanna Briggs Institute as participants. Presentations from the PostCongress will first be submitted to JAMIA for publication and then form a separate publication that includes the work done at the PostCongress.
Evidence Based Research

Systematic Reviews
Thompson, L. Suctioning Adults with an Artificial Airway – A Systematic Review (in Press - JBIEBNM)

Best Practice Information Sheets
Tracheal Suctioning Adults with an Artificial Airway (in Press).

Evaluation Cycles
Best Practice in the Prevention of Falls.

Publications
The New Zealand Centre for Evidence Based Nursing has contributed to every edition of The New Zealand Evidence Based Healthcare Bulletin.

Contributed to: Editorial between Evidence Based Nursing Centres around the world for Evidence-based Nursing (1999)
Workshops/Courses

The New Zealand Centre for Evidence Based Nursing has run regular workshops for corporate members as requested. Members of the Centre have participated in invited presentations/workshops at Massey University, Victoria University of Wellington, Wellington Hospital, Otago Polytechnic, Healthcare Otago (Dunedin Hospital), and Auckland University.

Presentations

McArthur, J. Key Note Address Intravenous Therapy: A Consumer’s Guide to the Galaxy and Guidelines are Only as Effective as their Implementation: Understanding the Factors Contributing to the Gap between Research and Practice, 5th Intravenous Nursing New Zealand Conference Wellington, October 21, 1999.

McArthur, J. Presentation to the Christchurch Region College of Nurses Aotearoa (NZ) Forum on Evidence Based Practice October 1999.

McArthur, J. Producing a Best Practice Information Sheet on Implementation of Evidence in Practice. Presentation at “Getting Research into Practice”, a seminar jointly hosted by the NZCEBN and South Auckland Health, November 2, 1999.


Bell, P. *Implementing a Falls Prevention Programme*. Presentation at “Getting Research into Practice”, a seminar jointly hosted by the NZCEBN and South Auckland Health, November 2, 1999.

**Guideline for the Management of Chronic Leg Ulcers**

This explicit evidence-based Clinical Practice Guideline lead by Andrew Jull is complete and is currently awaiting endorsement from the Colleges.
The Northern Territory Centre for Evidence Based Nursing and Midwifery

Northern Territory University Centre for Clinical Nursing & Research
(A Collaborating Centre of The Joanna Briggs Institute)
Northern Territory University
July 1999 - June 2000

Centre Staff

Director
Dr Jennifer Watson

Deputy Director
Ms Anne-Marie Dawson, CNC 2B Royal Darwin Hospital
(Acting) Ms Beryl McEwan, SCN Royal Darwin Hospital

Core Team Members
Professor Kay Roberts, Centre for Clinical Nursing & Research
Ms Bev Turnbull, Centre for Clinical Nursing & Research
Ms Marie Land, Centre for Clinical Nursing & Research
Ms Helen Baldwin, Centre for Clinical Nursing & Research/Staff Development, Territory Health Service, Alice Springs
Ms Clare Fenwick (Staff Development, Territory Health Service, Alice Springs)
Ms Maggi Richardson (Staff Development Territory Health Service, Darwin)

Advisory Panel
Ms Marie Hughes, Director of Nursing, Katherine Hospital
Ms Sally Stoyles, Staff Development & , Centre for Clinical Nursing & Research, Territory Health Services, Alice Springs Hospital
Ms Angela Brannelly, Information management for Evidence-Based Practice Group, Royal Darwin Hospital
Ms Lyndal Grant, Darwin Private Hospital

The Advisory panel is further developed with each project and reflects the expertise required in relation to the topic area of the project. It is envisaged that a more stable membership will be sought over time.
Significant Events

The Collaborative Joanna Briggs Institute for Evidence Based Nursing and Midwifery Centre has been established within the existing Centre for Clinical Nursing and Research (CCNR) at Northern Territory University. The activities of the CCNR include primary research, research training and professional education, and the development of best practice. It is through evidence based practice activities that the Northern Territory Centre fulfils its function as a member of The Joanna Briggs Institute collaborative network.

The Collaborative Agreement has been received from The Joanna Briggs Institute and has been sent to the Pro Vice Chancellor Higher Education and Research for signing. There already exits a general Memo of Understanding between Royal Darwin Hospital and Northern Territory University to cover collaborative activities.

The Northern Territory Centre continues to distribute Best Practice Information Sheets throughout the Territory to each district hospital and to some rural and remote community health centres. Alice Springs Hospital has become a Corporate member of the Institute, and letters have been sent inviting other Territory Health Services District Hospitals and Darwin Private Hospital to join.

Royal Darwin Hospital are currently updating their procedure manual using The Joanna Briggs Institute pro-forma procedure manual.

Evidence Based Research

Systematic Reviews

Two systematic reviews are now underway.

Acute Pain Assessment in Adult Patients (over 14 yrs) Experiencing an Episode of Acute Pain, and

The Management of Post Partum Haemorrhage for the Prevention of Primary Post Partum Haemorrhage.
Workshops/Conferences

August 1999 the Northern Territory Centre for Evidence Based Nursing and Midwifery hosted an Evidence Based Nursing and Midwifery workshop within the Territory presented by Mr Brent Hodgkinson from the Lead Centre. This was well attended in Darwin with 14 acute care and community nurses attending. Feedback on the workshop was excellent. Unfortunately due to unforeseen circumstances the planned workshop in Alice Springs had to be cancelled. This will be reconvened early next year.

We were delighted to be able to host Brent Hodgkinson from the Lead Centre to present the Alice Springs Workshop in March 2000. Brent provided an excellent workshop for us, and started us off on our computer searches. The workshop was well attended in Alice Springs with 18 acute care, community and remote area nurses attending. Feedback on the workshop was excellent. Further work on the proposed systematic reviews was commenced.
The Queensland Centre for Evidence Based Nursing and Midwifery

Mater Misericordiae Hospitals
July 1999 - June 2000

Centre Staff

Director
Dr Grace Croft

Deputy Director
Ms Irene Lake

Core Team Members
Ms Jane Jacobs
Mrs Ann Mitchell
Mrs Prabha Ramritu
Mrs Janet Evans

Advisory Panel
Ms Kym Barry, Queensland Nurses Union
Dr Debra Creedy, Queensland Nursing Council
Dr Elizabeth Davies, Queensland Nurse Academic Forum
Mr Brad Elms, Association of Rural Nurses Inc. Queensland
Ms Elizabeth Emmanuel, Australian College of Midwives Inc.
Ms Marjorie Henderson, Institute of Practising Nurses
Ms Catherine James, Directors of Nursing Queensland Inc.
Ms Deb Nizette, Australian and New Zealand College of Mental Health Nurses Inc. (Queensland branch)
Ms Sue Norrie, Queensland Health
Mr Jim O’Dempsey, Chairman
Ms Yvonne Osborne, Royal College of Nursing Australia
Ms Liz Rossmuller, Private Hospitals Association of Queensland
**Significant Events**

February, 2000 - The 2nd Australasian Colloquium on Evidence Based Nursing and Midwifery "Getting a Grip on the Evidence" was held in Brisbane on 23-25 February. Sponsored by the Queensland Centre in collaboration with the School of Nursing, Queensland Institute of Technology and The Joanna Briggs Institute, the Colloquium attracted over 120 delegates from Australia and overseas. In addition to workshops on Systematic Review and Clinical Audit, the colloquium presented 11 invited papers, 23 adjudicated papers and 6 posters in concurrent sessions.

May 3, 2000 - A delegation from the Advisory Committee met with the Minister for Health to discuss the Task Force submission for funding to develop a proposal for establishment of a Queensland Centre for Nursing Research. The outcome of the meeting was an invitation to submit a formal proposal to Queensland Health.

May 17, 2000 - Workshop on Systematic Review presented to 30 participants by David Evans, Coordinator of Reviews, The Joanna Briggs Institute.

June 14, 2000 - meeting of the Advisory Committee.

**Notable Visitors**

Mr Doug Allan, Business Manager, State Development, regarding opportunities in Taiwan for the aged care industry

Mr John Nowland, Business Cadet, State Development regarding opportunities in Taiwan for the aged care industry

Ms Marie Hutchinson, Director Community Health Nursing, Lismore, NSW

Ms Judith Robson, Consultant - Canossa Health Care

Ms Wiesa King, Educator - Canossa Health Care

Dr Marianne Wallis, Associate Professor, Griffith University/Gold Coast Hospital

Dr Jeanine Young, Nurse Researcher Royal Children’s Hospital/QUT

Dr Anita Peerson - Nurse Researcher The Prince Charles Hospital and Health District

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*Photos:*

Mater Misericordiae Adult Hospital, Queensland
Evidence Based Research

Systematic Reviews

**Best Practice Information Sheets**


Research Projects
The following are additional projects being conducted in the Mater Hospitals:

**Seed Grants** - The Nursing Research Centre made two awards in the 1999-2000 round of Seed Grants.

Ms Jennie Esposito will investigate *The Effectiveness of Music Therapy in Relief of Pre-Operative Anxiety in Day Surgery Patients*, at the Mater Adult Hospital.

Ms Joan Harvey and Lorna Davenport will conduct a study: *Evaluation of a Urinary Incontinence Assessment Tool for Day-Stay, Non-Elective, Overnight and Non-Surgical Gynaecological In-Patients*.

Prabha Ramritu and Mary MacKinnon - completed a study, *Meeting Needs of Children with Multiple Disabilities and their Families During Hospitalisation*.

Elizabeth Trickett- completed a study, *Duration of Pre-Operative Fasting in Children Attending Day Surgery*.

Prabha Ramritu, Tracey Stanley and Professor Mary Courtney, (QUT) - *Identification of Strategies to Optimise the Delivery of Care to Adolescents with Mental Health Problems*, in progress.


Publications


Conferences/Presentations


Workshops/Courses

Lecture to undergraduate nursing students - Australian Catholic University - McAuley, July 21, 1999.

Lecture to undergraduate nursing students - Australian Catholic University - McAuley, April 12, 2000.

10 Week Research Education Course offered to nurses at the Mater Misericordiae Hospitals, March to July 2000.

Systematic Review full day workshop presented by David Evans from the Lead Centre, May 17, 2000.
The Victorian Centre for Evidence Based Nursing

Victorian Centre for Nursing Practice Research
School of Postgraduate Nursing
The University of Melbourne
July 1999 - June 2000

Centre Staff

Director
Professor Judith Parker

Deputy Director
Associate Professor Sanchia Aranda

Core Team Members
Dr Tracey Bucknall
Dr Linda Johnston
Ms Robyn Faulkner
Ms Donna Milne
Ms Allison Sidebotham
Alison Hutchinson
Joan Ostaszkiewicz
Ms Sue Cromie

Advisory Panel
Associate Professor Sanchia Aranda
Dr Christine Beanland
Dr Tracey Bucknall
Mr Robert Burnham
Ms Phillipa de Voil
Ms Elizabeth Eadie
Ms Alicia Evans
Ms Robyn Faulkner
Ms Sue Harvey
Ms Fiona Hearn
Dr Linda Johnston
Ms Helen Kemp
Mr Bronte Kumm
Ms Jill Linklater
Ms Ella Lowe
Ms Faye Marles
Professor Judith Parker
Ms Suzanne Peterson
Ms Michelle Pratt
Ms Anne Marie Scully
Mrs Maria Stickland
Professor Lerma Ung

Judith Parker, Victoria
Significant Events

Two meetings of the Coordinating Council have been held. Professor Megan-Jane Johnstone from Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology was invited to become a member of the Council and has accepted. Additionally, Ms Sandra LeVassuer from Monash University has been invited to join and we are currently awaiting a reply.

The Executive Committee has met five times in the 1999/2000 period and has undertaken the following activities:

• Participated on the selection committee for the Clinical Research Fellowship Programme.

• Discussed funding opportunities (through other organisations) regarding the Clinical Research Fellowship Programme.

• Disseminated information on the Clinical Research Fellowship Programme and the Studentship – Master of Nursing (Research).

• Disseminated information on the Nurse Unit Manager Workshop.

The Victorian Centre for Nursing Practice Research/Victorian Centre for Evidence Based Nursing (VCNPR/VCEBN) was successful in obtaining a Strategic Partnerships with Industry-Research and Training (SPIRT) scholarship in collaboration with the Royal Children’s Hospital. Alison Hutchinson has commenced a full time PhD on the project titled: “The role of the nurse in the development of evidence-based clinical pathways: the impact of interdisciplinary collaboration on health care.”

The VCNPR/VCEBN has successfully submitted a tender proposal to the Department of Human Services Acute Health Services Branch – ‘Tender for Consistency of Emergency Department Triage’.

Submitted to the Nurses Board of Victoria - A study of the validity and reliability of a Pain Assessment Tool in infants.

The VCNPR, together with Western Hospital, The Helm Group, and HLB Mann Judd, submitted a tender proposal to the Department of Human Services Acute Health Services Branch – ‘Tender for Consistency of Emergency Department Triage’.

Royal Adelaide Hospital, South Australia
Notable Visitors

Professor Alison Kitson, Director Royal College of Nursing Institute, UK

Dr Mary-Ellen Purkis, University of Victoria, Canada

Professor Veronica James, Professor of Nursing Studies and Head of Nursing School, University of Nottingham, UK

Dr Heather Wharrad, School of Nursing, University of Nottingham, UK

Kate Cameron, Coordinator Implementation and Education, JBIEBNM

Evidence Based Research

Systematic Reviews

A Master of Nursing (Research) student commenced in March 2000. Joan Ostaszkiewicz is undertaking the Systematic Review, ‘Timed Voiding and Habit Retraining’, under the auspices of the Cochrane Incontinence Group, UK. Draft protocol to be submitted late May.


Best Practice Information Sheets

‘Getting Research into Practice and Implementing Clinical Practice Guidelines’ (in Progress).

Primary Research

‘An Evidence-Based Approach to Nursing Management of the Breast-Feeding Infant with Failure to Thrive Admitted to a Paediatric Hospital’. Supported by the School of Postgraduate Nursing-Victorian Centre for Nursing Practice Research Joint Initiative Grant and the Royal Children’s Hospital Nursing Research Fund. (In Progress)
Publications


Conferences/Presentations


Workshops/Courses

Clinical Research Fellowship Programme – The Clinical Research Fellowships (CRF) are designed to support nurses based in clinical settings to identify, appraise and utilise research as an evidential base for daily nursing practice. Within their own work environment, Fellowship holders identify areas of practice, procedure or policy that need an evidential base. Experienced clinical researchers at the VCNPR provide training and advice during the Fellowship. Using resources developed by the Critical Appraisal Skills Program in the United Kingdom, nurses receive 2 weeks of full-time training in the research skills necessary to find and appraise the required evidence. A further 8 weeks part-time training supports the clinician to implement the evidence-based changes to practice at their clinical agency. The cooperative approach means that the Fellowship holder undertakes the program while continuing in employment. The first CRF program was conducted between October and December 1999. Twelve nurses from a variety of clinical settings undertook the program. Three CRF programs are scheduled for 2000.

A one-day workshop titled ‘Evidence Based Nursing: Implications for Managers’ was conducted in April. Eighty managers from across Victoria (50% from rural and regional areas) attended.

Best Practice Information Sheets (‘Vital Signs’ and ‘Group and Individual Therapy in the Treatment of Depression’) have been utilised in the curriculum of the Postgraduate Diploma of Advanced Clinical Nursing.

Systematic Reviews produced by The Joanna Briggs Institute for Evidence Based Nursing and Midwifery are available from the Centre’s resource library for the benefit of all members of the School of Postgraduate Nursing.

Royal Adelaide Hospital, South Australia
The Western Australian Centre for Evidence Based Nursing and Midwifery
Curtin University of Technology
July 1999 - June 2000

Centre Staff

Director
Professor Robin Watts

Core Team Members
Dr Sue McDonald
Ms Robyn Collins, King Edward Memorial Hospital (replaced Dr Sue McDonald)
Ms Jeanette Robertson
Ms Sue Terry
Ms Lorraine Shepherd (replaced Ms Sue Terry)
Ms Gail Thomas (until December 1999)
Ms Ann Callaghan, Child Health Research Institute

Advisory Panel
Ann Callaghan
Bronwyn Davies
Phil Della
Hannah Herod
Bronwyn Jones
Gavin Leslie
Liz Manley
Yasmin Naglazas
Mark Rae
Pam Roberts
Sally Wilson
June Wishart
Jeanne Young
Dr Due Nikolette (replaced Jeanne Young)
Ms Heather Gluyas (replaced June Wishart)
Judith Finn
Significant Events

August 1999 - Management meeting
December 1999 - Management Committee Meeting
February 2000 - Advisory Panel Meeting
March 2000 - Management Committee Meeting
June 2000 - Management Committee Meeting

New Centre Member

The Nurses Network, Institute for Child Health Research is currently negotiating to join the Western Australia Centre for Evidence Based Nursing and Midwifery. A draft Memorandum of Understanding is being prepared. The responsibilities for this group will be systematic reviews in child and family health-community nursing. They have already held several sessions with community nurses to identify a suitable topic for their first review. A submission has been made to the Nurses Board of Western Australia for funding a part time project officer.

Funding

HealthWest has approved our submission (15 months ago) to support a Deputy Director’s position and infrastructure costs. These funds are being drawn from the Commonwealth Quality Improvement Fund. The money will be transferred prior to the end of the financial year (end of June) and will initially be for one year.

The only income in this period has been $2,108 from RPI funds and $34 in interest from trust account.

Evidence Based Research

Systematic Reviews

Nursing Management of Fever

The first draft of the report is currently being reviewed by the Review Panel.

We have been able to assist QUT Nursing Department with literature for a related primary research study on Australian nurses’ management of fever.

Some media interest was generated by a press release about the study in late June to coincide with the paper presented at the ICN conference in London. Nursing Review drafted an article; Jeanette Robertson and Robin Watts were interviewed on 6NR, a local community station; and Robin Watts was interviewed by a WA regional ABC station. As a result 6NR indicated interest in running a regular feature on The Joanna Briggs Institute reviews. Several Best Practice Information Sheets were provided along with contact information for David Evans in Adelaide.
Community/Child Health Nursing

The Nurses Network from the Child Health Research Institute is leading this review. At the meeting of interested participants on March 9, 2000 it was decided to investigate the feasibility of undertaking a review on the use of post partum depression assessment tools in community settings. This will replace the previously selected topic of infantile colic as a Cochrane Review already exists on this topic. The group has requested that the Institute’s assistance be sought in approaching Cochrane for permission to develop a Best Practice Information Sheet based on their Review. The Review highlights the need for further primary research on the use of herbal teas as treatment for infantile colic and we are discussing this with several clinical agencies.

Community nurses’ interest in evidence based practice was supported by two seminars presented in February by Dr Stuart Logan, Director of the Centre for Evidence Based Child Health, London. A significant proportion of the two large audiences were nurses.

Midwifery

With the recruitment of Robyn Collins from King Edward Memorial Hospital to the Management Committee, interest has been generated for a group of midwives at that hospital to be involved in a systematic review. Jeanette Robertson and I will be meeting with them early in June to identify potential topics.

Publications

Conferences/Presentations

Presentation to Semester 4 students, Curtin University – Jeanette Robertson and Robin Watts – August 31, 1999.

Presentation to a RN Clinical Skills Update course, Curtin University – Robin Watts – September 30, 1999.


Workshops/Courses

Workshop jointly sponsored by the WA Centre and HealthWest at Narrogin ‘How to put evidence into practice’ - senior nursing staff from Upper Great Southern Health District (Helen Pannowitz), March, 2000.

Presentation to Semester 3 students pre-registration program, Curtin University (Robin Watts), April, 2000.

Presentation to RN Clinical Update Skills Course, Curtin University (Jeanette Robertson), April, 2000.