

CoNNO Meeting – 20 October 2008

Agenda Item 9 – Reports from Member Organisations



PROJECTS

Development of National Standards for the Assessment of Internationally Qualified Nurses and Midwives for Registration and Migration

Comments from the Nursing and Midwifery Regulatory Authorities (NMRAs) on the Final Report and Implementation Strategy for this project are being received. The collated comments will be further discussed at the October meeting of the Registration Standard Committee.

Research project to review the Code of Ethics for Nurses in Australia (2002); Code of Professional Conduct for Nurses in Australia (2003); Code of Ethics for Midwives; and develop a Code of Professional Conduct for Midwives in Australia.

The Codes were launched on 11 August 2008 at Parliament House, Canberra by Senator the Hon Jan McLucas, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health and Ageing and the inaugural Commonwealth Chief Nursing and Midwifery Officer, Ms Rosemary Bryant, FRCNA. The launch was well attended and received media on ABC radio and in *The Australian*.

The Codes are now available to download from the ANMC website (www.anmc.org.au). Posters are also available in limited quantities and are subject to postage and handling charges. Please see the website for more information.

The Development of ANMC National Guidelines on Boundaries of Professional Practice for Nurses and Midwives

The second phase of this project is being undertaken by Ms Amanda Adrian of Amanda Adrian and Associates. Work is progressing on development of the Guidelines.

Development of a National Framework for the Demonstration of Continuing Competence for Nurses and Midwives.

The final round of consultation has been completed, and the framework will be circulated to the NMRAs prior to being presented to the Board in November. The Project Management Committee would like to thank all those who provided valuable feedback to the various consultation stages.

Project to develop standards and criteria for the accreditation of nursing and midwifery courses leading to registration, enrolment, endorsement and authorisation in Australia

Over the last three months draft sets of standards for each of the four professional groups (RNs, ENs, Nurse Practitioners and Midwives) have been circulated to the professions for feedback. The ANMC was overwhelmed by the number of responses received. The consultant is now preparing the revised drafts for presentation to the Project Management Committee, the Steering Committee, and then to the NMRAs.

Implementation of the National Decision Making Tools for Nursing and Midwifery Practice Decisions

Funding has been received from DOHA to assist with the implementation of these tools, with a specific focus on those states/territories where decision making frameworks do not currently exist. A call for expressions of interest to undertake this work was made in August, and negotiations are now underway to secure a consultant.

Updates on this and other projects can be accessed on the ANMC website www.anmc.org.au

ANMC POSITION STATEMENTS AND GUIDELINES

ANMC position statements provide the nursing and midwifery professions with a national regulatory perspective which may assist the development of nursing, midwifery and health care policy. ANMC guidelines are part of the professional practice framework which provides assistance to nurses and midwives in relation to their practice obligations.

The position statements and guidelines are available at:

http://www.anmc.org.au/position_statements_guidelines/position_statements.php

Existing position statements and guidelines are regularly reviewed and revised. New position statements and guidelines undergo a considered consultation process.

Forthcoming policies include a guideline on '*Responsibilities of Nurses and Midwives in the Event of a Declared National Emergency.*'

OTHER ITEMS/ISSUES**National regulation**

The ANMC continues to play a leading role in lobbying to ensure that the best model for national regulation is achieved. Much of this work is being undertaken under the umbrella of the Australian Peak Nursing and Midwifery Forum.

PUBLICATIONS

Hard copies of ANMC publications have almost sold out. Please check the ANMC website for information about availability. Most publications can also be downloaded free of charge for individual use, from the ANMC website. Multiple copies may be subject to copyright restrictions. Please check with the ANMC Business Manager on 02 6274 9106 for more information.

Christine Ashley-Coe

**Australian Wound Management Association Inc**

The Australian Wound Management Association (AWMA) currently has 250 members. Each state and Territory has an association responsible for local matters. Every two years there is a national conference and in the intervening year the state and territories have a conference.

We have subcommittees who are working on projects of interest to the members, these include;

- Reviewing the Clinical Practice Guidelines for Prediction & Prevention of Pressure injuries
- Reviewing the Wound Management Standards
- Developing recommended minimum data content for wound training programs with a view of offering AWMA endorsement
- Developing a consensus document on skin tear prevention & management
- Developing a consensus document on wound infection identification and management

Other subcommittees are the fundraising committee and the Wound Awareness Campaign committee. It is this latter committee that may interest CoNNO members.

We are running a campaign to raise awareness of wounds.

Currently many patients with wounds purchase their own dressings. It is AWMA's intention to lobby government to have the dressings subsidised and put on the pharmaceutical benefits scheme (PBS). There is a website for signing the petition—please encourage all your members of the various organisations to sign this petition www.elephantintheroom.com.au

Three members are also members of international bodies: Wendy White from NSW is with the International Pain in Wound Care Committee and Terry Swanson from Vic. is with the International Infection Institute, Keryln Carville is working with the International Guidelines for prevention and management of pressure injury.

Jan Rice
