



# CENTRE ON-LINE

June 2010

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**CALENDAR & eEvents Bulletin** - The Centre will be publishing its Education Calendar for the second half of 2010 by late June. If you have a palliative care education activity that you would like to be added to the Calendar for the second half of this year (July \* December), please email details to CPCRE as soon as possible.

Activities will be added to CPCRE's online calendar as well as the monthly Events eBulletin.

### Upcoming CPCRE Education Activities

CPCRE is running more of the popular Clinical Skills Update workshops over the next few months:

- Gold Coast August 2;
- Mt Isa in October; and
- RBWH November 19

## Did You Know:

Palliative Care Australia has released an [eBulletin with information on the recent Federal budget](#).

To read more visit the [PCA website](#).

Check out the CPCRE Events Bulletin in the next few months for venues and times.

For more information on Clinical Skills Updates, please email [Rosaleen Matters](#) or phone 3636 1449.

## Newsletter content

### PEPA

Please email [CPCRE](#) if there is content that you would like considered for publication in Centre On-Line.

PEPA (Program of Experience in the Palliative Approach) is a program funded by the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing to assist health professionals develop skills in the palliative approach by undertaking a clinical placement with a specialist palliative care service or participating in workshops. The recent Federal budget

indicated that the program may be re-funded beyond June 2010 but we are unable to confirm details at this time.

Please check the [CPCRE website](#) in the coming months and future editions of the eEvents Bulletin and CPCRE newsletter for further news about PEPA.

## Mailing List

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Do you receive the Centre's quarterly electronic newsletter and other periodic publications? If not, and you would like your name added to our database, please email us and provide the following details: title, name, position, organisation, contact phone number and email address.

If you would like to be removed from our database, please contact us via phone or email [Unsubscribe me](#).

## CPCRE Contact Details

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### Website:

[www.health.qld.gov.au/cpcre/](http://www.health.qld.gov.au/cpcre/)

For more information on PEPA workshops or placements, please email [Kathryn Laurent](#) or phone (07) 3636 6216.

## New CareSearch Resources

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CareSearch is an online resource designed to help those needing to find relevant and trustworthy information and resources about palliative care. To recognise [Harmony day](#) on March 21 CareSearch developed Short [Videos in English, Greek, Italian and Cantonese](#) that can be watched online and that highlight some of the important issues for patients and families such as living with illness, how to care, at the end and bereavement, grief and loss.

## CPCRE 9th Annual Research Conference

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CPCRE's 9th Annual Research Conference was held in the Russell Strong Auditorium at the Princess Alexandra Hospital on 30th April. It was attended by 140 delegates from varying disciplines and settings all over Queensland.

The keynote address was given by Professor Andrew Wilson, Executive Dean – Faculty of Health at Queensland University of Technology. His presentation gave delegates an insight into how the national health reforms may affect palliative care and how the sector can capitalise on the proposed changes. Other presentations profiled local projects and research in Queensland.

A highlight of the conference was an interactive case study presented by Prof Patsy Yates (PCOC Lead Investigator), Jennifer Tieman (Network Director, CareSearch) and Sue Hanson (NSAP Project Director). The case study showcased the role that each of these national projects have to play in good pain management at the end of life.

Check the [CPCRE website](#) in the next few weeks to read abstracts and presentations from the conference.

CPCRE is already planning the 2011 conference where we will celebrate

the 10th Anniversary of the conference.

For more information or to provide feedback or suggestions for future conferences, please email [CPCRE](#)

### **Date Claimer for your Diaries**

The CPCRE Research Conference will be **May 27, 2011** at the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital.

## **National Palliative Care Week 2010 - \$14 Million Boost**

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Minister for Health Nicola Roxon and Minister for Ageing Justine Elliot, marked National Palliative Care Week 2010 by announcing \$14.3 million to fund nine national projects for improved palliative care services, research, training and information.

To read the full press release. [\\_\\_\\_\\_\\_](#)

## **Newsflash – Syringe Driver Guidelines**

This CPCRE publication is currently under review and being updated. Watch for the announcement of availability of the latest version soon.

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## **GP Education Initiative Grants**

CPCRE invites expressions of interest from Divisions of General Practice and specialist palliative care service providers for the 2010 - 2011 GP Education Initiative grants.

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An extensive review of the grants from 2002 – 2008 identified a number of benefits and limitations with the current scheme. The review also identified that GP education in the form of workshops should remain a priority. The GP Advisory Group at CPCRE has recommended a change to the current grant process.

For the 2010 – 2011 grants period funds will be used to provide specific palliative care education workshops in Queensland for GPs, clinical General Practice staff and other clinical primary health care staff. Allocation of 2010 - 2011 grants remains subject to availability of project funds.

If you would like to have a copy of the 'Expression of Interest Guidelines' or any further information regarding the 2010 - 2011 grants please contact [Carol Hope](#), Director of Learning & Development at CPCRE on 3636 1337.

Closing [date for applications](#) is **Wednesday 16 June 2010**.

## **Queensland Activities**

Palliative Care Queensland's Biennial Conference, with the theme of

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'Looking In, Looking Out' the PCQ conference held at Ipswich on May 21 & 22nd had lively presentations and some thought provoking sessions.

Attracting 115 delegates the two day event presented many opportunities for professional networking .

Visit the [Palliative Care Queensland website](#) in the next few weeks to read abstracts and presentations from the conference.

## **Palliative Care Nurses Australia**

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Plans are progressing well for the 3rd Biennial Palliative Care Nurses Australia Conference 2010 in Brisbane on 27-28 August. Our international keynote speaker, Prof. Deborah Sherman, is offering two stimulating keynote addresses, whilst Molly Carlile from Melbourne and CPCRE's own Prof. Patsy Yates will provide their substantial insights into palliative care nursing in each of their keynotes.

We have had a terrific response to our call for abstracts, and they have been evaluated and authors are being contacted; the concurrent sessions promise to be wide-ranging and highly relevant across the sector, and a ever-growing poster exhibition will again form part of the program this year.

We are also delighted to announce that Wyeth have signed up as our Conference Partner! This represents substantial support for the PCNA Conference 2010 and we are delighted to have their support.

CareSearch are also on board with their important resources and will provide helpful information to all interested delegates. The exhibitors and sponsors form an important component of any conference and we are looking forward to providing a comprehensive range of representation relevant to PCNA members and other delegates.

Finally, and most importantly, registrations are well and truly open and I invite you to register on line at [www.pcna2010.org.au](http://www.pcna2010.org.au) as soon as possible! This promises to be an exciting event not to be missed!

See you in Brisbane in August!

*Dr John Rosenberg*  
Chair PCNA Inc.

## **Paediatric Palliative Care Service – Launch two new projects**

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Children with life limiting conditions and their families are receiving support from their hospital-based healthcare team in the comfort of their own home using the internet, thanks to a special University of Queensland project launched on Friday 21st May by sporting legend and philanthropist, Raelene Boyle.

The Raelene Boyle Outreach Program has been established by UQ's Centre for Online Health (COH) with the Royal Children's Hospital (RCH) Paediatric Palliative Care Service (PPCS) and is independently funded by the Sporting Cancer Foundation.

The PPCS supports families during the difficult period of caring for a

child with a potentially incurable condition such as cancer. The Outreach Program will use web cameras and internet technologies to hold video linkups between the hospital and patients' homes.

As a cancer survivor, Ms Boyle said she had experienced the difficulties of attending hospital for regular treatments. "I know how difficult it is moving from place to place for treatment. So for this service to be available when parents are going through a horrible time is, I'm sure, a major benefit to them and their sick children," she said.

Paediatric Palliative Care Service doctor, Dr Anthony Herbert said that the Outreach Program provided significant benefits. "I have been amazed at how much the web cam links can improve the care we provide to children living in both Brisbane and outside of Brisbane," he said. "It helps from a continuity of care perspective for the children's primary doctors and healthcare team at the hospital to continue contact with the families if the child no longer needs to or is unable to visit the hospital. This is particularly helpful for families who live outside of Brisbane".

As well as officially launching the outreach program, the PPCS also launched the updated 2nd edition of the 'Practical Guide to palliative care in Paediatric Oncology' a resource booklet for health professionals which has been well received both nationally and internationally. For further information about either of these projects, you can contact the PPCS via email [PPCS@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:PPCS@health.qld.gov.au).

## **Advanced Care Planning Conference**

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I recently attended "The Inaugural International Advance Care Planning Conference" in Melbourne. There were delegates from many countries attending from a diverse range of disciplines and settings. I found the sessions and discussions stimulating and thought provoking. Of great significance to me was the concept of diagnosing dying: determining whether or not to conduct invasive procedures and tests and provide a trial of treatment or whether this would be futile because the person is dying. The important message is that these discussions and decisions should not be taking place at the time of a crisis.

It was announced at the conference that a second conference will be held in London in June 2011. There was also a decision to commence an International Society for Advance Care Planning and End of Life Care. Within Australia, there was support for a National Framework for Advance Care Directives.

*Kathy Laurent*  
PEPA Manager QLD

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