

Continuing Care and Clinical Service Development News

April 2007

Sharing information

There are a number of ways in which we at CC&CSD regularly communicate with the people involved in our program areas. We have recently made some changes to our forums and meetings. Below is a clarification of the purpose and target audience of each meeting as well as the future dates for 2007.

Improving care forums

All the CC&CSD forums will now be known as Improving Care Forums. These include those previously known as Improving Care Forums, Provider Forums and Health Independence Program (HIP) Forums.

Purpose

To communicate to a broad audience about the latest developments in CC&CSD.

Target audience

Anyone who is interested in CC&CSD programs including allied health, medical and nursing staff, community services staff, policy makers, academics and researchers, managers of health and community services.

Tentative dates and topics for 2007

Date	Topic
4 May	Minimising functional decline
15 June	Stroke
3 August	Disability and health interface
7 September	Transition care program
19 Oct	TBA
30 November	TBA



Introducing Carolyn Glover

Carolyn joined the Sub-acute Inpatient team (now the Sub-acute and Transition Care Services team) in April 2006.

Carolyn is a nurse and has experience across the acute, community and aged care sectors. Most recently she has worked for DHS in Disability Services.

Carolyn's primary role in the SATCS team is the roll out of the Transition Care Program (TCP) in Victoria. TCP is a joint Commonwealth/State program for older people at the conclusion of a hospital episode. Carolyn is enjoying the challenge of working with the Commonwealth and health services to implement TCP in metropolitan and regional areas.

When at home Carolyn is *trying* to develop an appreciation of metal music - thanks to her fifteen year old daughter.

Communities of Practice

1. Improving Care Initiative

Purpose

To share information, ideas and successful initiatives from the Improving Care Initiative amongst the people involved.

Target audience

Executive sponsors, key implementation contacts and project officers involved in the Improving Care Initiative and staff involved in the supporting projects.

Dates for 2007

17 August, 14 December

DHS contact

Sylvia Chen

2. HARP-CDM

Purpose

To share information, ideas and successful initiatives from the HARP-CDM Initiative amongst the people involved.

Target audience

HARP-CDM program managers

Dates for 2007

20 April, 22 June, 21 September, 16 November

DHS contacts

John Masci and Carol Pyke

Victorian HIV Integrated Service Model

The Clinical Service Development team is undertaking a review of HIV/AIDS services in Victoria. The review will identify how the service system can better meet the needs of people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA), address gaps in service provision and develop a clear strategy for change.

The review is taking place in a changing HIV/AIDS environment. Death rates from AIDS in Australia have fallen significantly due to the impact of antiretroviral treatments. However, an increased life expectancy for PLWHA can be associated with multiple medical complications, and associated social and behavioural issues such as poverty, isolation, psychological ill health, dementia and psychiatric illness. As a result, a new model of service may be required and funding priorities may need to be altered.

A previous review has been conducted on HIV services at the Alfred Hospital, with a report released as a consultation document in October 2005. The report included 20 recommendations for change, encompassing the service model, targeted testing and prevention, and administration and service planning.

Program manager meetings

The following meetings have the common purpose of information sharing and program development.

Meeting	Attendees	Dates for 2007	DHS Contact
Improving Care Initiative Implementation Group	Key implementation contacts, project officers and DHS reps	13 April, 17 August, 14 December (additional as required)	Sylvia Chen
Transition Care Program	Transition Care Program managers and DHS reps	27 April, 1 June, 6 July, 10 August, 5 October, 2 November, 7 December	Carolyn Glover
Sub-acute Ambulatory Care Services managers	Sub-acute Ambulatory Care Services managers and DHS reps	18 May, 20 July, 26 October	Juliet Coles Charlotte Dart
Post Acute Care managers	Post Acute Care managers and DHS reps	27 April, 6 July, 5 October	John Masci

Community consultation was used to verify these recommendations and priorities and to establish if they were in line with community needs and expectations. The community consultations included input from individual consumers, consumer organisations, service providers, government policy makers and general practitioners. The consultations raised many broader service system issues and highlighted the need for a comprehensive review of the service needs of PLWHA in Victoria.

A steering committee and an advisory group have been convened to guide the review and provide expert knowledge. A further consultation process will occur with DHS program areas, clinicians, service providers to provide a more in depth knowledge of the issues in HIV/AIDS service provision. It is anticipated that the final report consisting of recommendations and an implementation plan will be completed by September 2007.

For more information please refer to the website at: www.health.vic.gov.au/hiv aids/service.htm

InterRAI/ Pilot Project takes off

Sixty-seven clinicians from eight Health Services have now been trained in using the InterRAI-Home Care Comprehensive Assessment tool. They are part of a pilot project looking at how an electronic comprehensive assessment tool can help coordinate and integrate the care provided to clients in the HARP-CDM People with Complex Needs stream.

A similar pilot is running concurrently within five Aged Care Assessment Services (ACAS). The pilot projects use a version of the tool especially adapted for use by HARP-CDM and ACAS teams.

HARP-CDM teams will use a prototype implementation of the InterRAI-HC, developed in Microsoft Access. The prototype will be rolled out to participating Health Services in the coming weeks.

A previous study has identified the InterRAI-HC as the existing, validated comprehensive assessment tool best suited for Victorian services.

Health Services participating in the HARP-CDM InterRAI-HC pilot are:

- Melbourne Health
- Western Health
- Northern Health
- Peninsula Health
- Werribee Mercy
- Southwest Healthcare Warrnambool
- Bendigo Healthcare Group
- Mildura Base Hospital

VINAH MDS in 2007-08

Revisions to the Victorian Integrated Non-Admitted Health Minimum Data Set (VINAH MDS) for next financial year (2007-08) have now been released.

Changes have been made based on consultation with the HARP-CDM Data Working Group, and in consultation with other programs. In 2006-07 Post Acute Care and Community Palliative Care will transition to reporting on VINAH.

Some minor corrections and updates have also been made to the current year's VINAH manual.

Information about VINAH can be found on the [Health Data Standards and Systems website](http://www.health.vic.gov.au/hdss/vinah/index.htm):
www.health.vic.gov.au/hdss/vinah/index.htm

For your diary!

Improving care forum: Friday 4 May 2007

Minimising functional decline

Older people in our health services often have complex care needs and are at risk of functional decline as soon as they enter hospital. We continue to have a strong focus on how we can better manage this and minimise the significant impact of functional decline.

Our May Improving Care Forum will focus on minimising functional decline and will outline how the Victorian implementation of a new Commonwealth initiative will enable us to continue to build on work already being undertaken by Health Services in this area, including the development of implementation toolkits. A stimulating and interactive program for this forum is being developed and registration information will be emailed shortly.