



## **N<sup>3</sup>ET E-Update (No. 03/2004)**

### **JULY 2004 TASKFORCE MEETING**

*The National Nursing and Nursing Education Taskforce (N<sup>3</sup>ET) was established in November 2003. Following each meeting an electronic update (E-Update) will be prepared and circulated to interested stakeholders. E-Updates are brief summaries of the key issues from each Taskforce meeting or other recent news/matters.*

#### **N<sup>3</sup>ET Newsletter now released**

The first issue of the N<sup>3</sup>ET Newsletter has been released. The Newsletter is seen as an important communication tool: one that can reach all nurses regardless of their access to the Internet or their geographical location. The Newsletter has been sent to the Chief Nurse/Principal Nurse of each State or Territory for distribution and is also available on line at <http://www.nnnet.gov.au/newsletters/index.htm>.

The Taskforce is committed to keeping the nursing profession informed and hopes that the Newsletter will keep nurses aware of how work to implement recommendations from the National Review of Nursing: Our Duty of Care report is progressing.

If you wish to receive an electronic copy of the newsletter, follow the website pages to "Stakeholder Registration" and complete your registration on line or contact the secretariat on 03 9616 6995 or by email at [nnnet@dhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:nnnet@dhs.vic.gov.au)

#### **Collaboration is the key to progressing the work of the Taskforce**

The Taskforce recognises and values the input and cooperation of stakeholders in implementation of the recommendations. To this end, the Chair has met and is continuing to meet with representatives from key organisations including the Australian Nursing Federation, the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Council, Australian Peak Nursing Forum, the National Nursing Organisations, Australian Rural Nurses Inc., Council of Remote Area Nurses of Australia Inc. and Australian Private Hospital Association. The Taskforce maintains strong links with the Australian and New Zealand Council of Chief Nurses and the Council of Deans of Nursing and Midwifery Australia and New Zealand.

#### **Work on the implementation highlights critical links between recommendations**

As projects are scoped and defined, the complexity and linkages between them becomes apparent. For example, work on implementation of Recommendation 4, towards national consistency in scope of practice, needs to give consideration to national standards for nurse practitioners (Rec 5), enrolled nurse competencies (Rec 21) and care workers not covered by legislation (Rec 7). Building on the synergies between the recommendations will ensure effective use of resources.

Ensuring that each project is built on strong foundations is critical to achieving successful outcomes that meet the needs of all stakeholders.

The Taskforce has highlighted the complexity and interconnectedness of the work in the revised work plan that has been submitted to AHMAC for approval.

It is clear that individual projects cannot progress in isolation and it is therefore imperative that all parties responsible for recommendations work collaboratively and cooperatively to achieve optimal outcomes.

#### **N<sup>3</sup>ET – What will it achieve?**

The National Nursing & Nursing Education Taskforce shares the vision of the Australian Health Ministers' outlined in the National Health Workforce Strategic Framework and have released a statement of endeavour and some examples of how things will be different in the future as a result of the work of the Taskforce.



Full details of what the Taskforce hopes to achieve are available on the N<sup>3</sup>ET website at [www.nnnet.gov.au](http://www.nnnet.gov.au). However, the essence of the document is encapsulated in the following exert...

- *There will be improved models of education that prepare nurses and midwives to practice competently and confidently in a range of settings, and which build on examples of best practice.*
- *There will be increased clarity and consistency in education and competency requirements for nurses, midwives and unlicensed care workers practising in various roles in a range of health service settings*

**For more information (including E-Updates) on N<sup>3</sup>ET, go to [www.nnnet.gov.au](http://www.nnnet.gov.au)**