

ADF NURSES INFORMATION
NEWSLETTER - AUGUST 2002

Business continues to move along nicely within the ADF Nursing Directorate. The Defence Health Symposium provided a good opportunity to meet and network with several nursing officers as well as listen to some excellent presentations.

The Advanced and Specialist Competencies for ADF Nursing Officers have been distributed to the Environmental Commands and Training Authorities for endorsement and have been presented to the DHS Steering Committee.

Defence wide membership to The Joanna Briggs Institute of Evidence Base Practice (JBI) is being investigated with a view to replacing the current ADFP 706, and has been presented to the DHS Steering Committee.

" The Joanna Briggs Institute was established late in 1996 as an initiative of the University of Adelaide Dept Clinical Nursing and the Royal Adelaide Hospital in recognition of the need for a collaborative approach to the evaluation of research and its integration into nursing practice. With the support of leading hospitals and universities, the JBI collaboration has grown steadily to include state collaborating centres within Australia, as well as Hong Kong and New Zealand. The Collaboration is further strengthened by a host of individual hospitals, residential aged care facilities, educational institutions, libraries, corporate bodies and individual nurses who support the Institute through corporate membership."(JBI web page)

Response to the call for abstracts has been wonderful, the program for the Inaugural ADF Nursing Officer Forum on the 7th and 8th of November 2002 is looking very interesting with a variety of papers for presentation.

The Registration form has been posted on the web site under the ADF Nursing Officer Forum heading along with an overview of the forum itself. A program will be posted as soon as it becomes available. Another addition to the ADF Nurses Bulletin Board will be a section in which papers by ADF nursing officers will be published. We have already had several papers sent for inclusion in this section and would welcome more contributions.

We would also like to establish a "links" section to the Bulletin Board with hyperlinks to interesting and relevant websites. Thanks to LCDR Bronwyn Ferrier who has supplied some sites for us.

We have been in contact with the Australian War Memorial with regard to updating the photo database on ADF nurses, it would appear that there has been few additions to this after WWII. There have already been some positive replies from ADF nursing officers offering their personal photographic records from various deployments for inclusion at the War Memorial. If anyone has any photos they would like to contribute please contact Bill Fogarty at the Australian War Memorial for submission details.: Bill.Fogarty@awm.gov.au

WEB SITES OF INTEREST

Visible Human Service

<http://visiblehuman.epfl.ch/>

This Web site from the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology allows users to view three dimensional models of human anatomy. A free registration allows users to log on and fully access the site, but there are some sample demonstrations without registration.

Public Health Image Library

<http://phil.cdc.gov/Phil/default.asp>

The public health image library (PHIL) offered by the Centers for Disease control and Prevention (CDC) is an extensive collection of images and multimedia files related to public health. If you've ever wanted to see the life cycle of a hookworm or pictures of anthrax lesions, you can see them here.

Breast Cancer On line (BCO)

www.bco.org

BCO is an independent, peer reviewed, on line source for all health care professionals involved in research, diagnosis treatment and care of the breast cancer patient. It is a free electronic source of peer-reviewed articles and gateway to breast cancer on the Internet.

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Australia's Health 2002 Report is now available - visit the website at www.aihw.gov.au

THE PATIENT PROFESSION: TIME FOR ACTION

Report on the Inquiry into Nursing

This is quite a large document but worth taking the time to look through, it can be found on the Parliament of Australia Senate web site:

www.aph.gov.au/senate/committee/clac_ctte/nursing/

The Commonwealth Department of Education Science and Training's **National Review of Nursing Education** website has some very interesting information included within the submissions and is well worth a visit, the address is:

www.dest.gov.au/highered/programmes/nursing

PROFESSIONAL ISSUES

OPEN DISCLOSURE

Open disclosure is open discussion of incidents that result in harm to a patient while receiving health care. The elements of open disclosure are an apology or an expression of regret, a factual explanation of what happened, the potential consequences and steps being taken to prevent recurrence.

The Australian Council for Safety and Quality in Health Care have initiated the Open Disclosure Project to develop national standards to describe the action that can be taken by health care providers when adverse events occur. An educational and organisational support package, which promotes the implementation of the standard, will also be developed. The standard and accompanying support package is due for completion in December 2002.

The key issues to be covered by this project are:

- *What information should be provided, who should provide it, when to whom?*
- *How can understanding of the difference between an explanation and apology and an admission of liability be improved?*
- *What should be done in situations where there is significant breakdown in trust and communication between significant groups?*
- *What organisational systems are necessary to support open disclosure?*
- *What are the factors most likely to favour open disclosure and to impede it?*
- *What values should underpin implementation of open disclosure?*
- *What approaches should be used in the education package?*

For further information on the project and access to the issues paper "When things go wrong: an open approach to adverse events" go to:

www.nsh.nsw.gov.au/teachresearch/cpiu/od.htm

For information on other projects by the Australian Council for Safety and Quality in Health Care go to:

www.safetyandquality.org .

➤ OVERVIEW

The Director of Defence Force Nursing - Captain Jenny Graham RAN, is coordinating the ADF Nursing Officer Forum to be held in Canberra from 7-8 November 2002. The Forum initiates the commencement of an annual event focusing on nursing in the ADF, current nursing practice, careers, education, leadership and the delivery of quality health care to members of the ADF. The forum provides an excellent opportunity for ADF Nurses to network with their counterparts from all three Services and for professional and personal development.

Speakers will present on topics that reflect the theme of the forum - "Leadership - No Barriers, No Bounds". Prominent guest speakers from within the ADF and the civilian health community will give presentations on leadership and other topics of interest relating to nursing and health care, that will be of interest to anyone wishing to further best practice.

It is estimated that over 120 delegates will attend the forum comprising Permanent and Reserve nurses from Navy, Army and Airforce. To share your experiences, expertise, ideas on improvement in health care, education, leadership, advanced practice or aspects of ADF nursing, you are invited to attend the First Annual ADF Nurses Forum to be held from the 7th - 8th November 2002 in Canberra.

A Forum Dinner will be held at the RMC Duntroon Officers Mess on the evening of Thursday 7th November 2002, this will be at a cost of \$60 per head. Please indicate intention to attend on the registration form, payment for the dinner must accompany registration. Numbers for the dinner are limited and will be accepted on a 'first in' basis.

7TH AND 8TH NOVEMBER 2002

FIRST ANNUAL ADF NURSES FORUM

"LEADERSHIP - NO BARRIERS, NO BOUNDS"

VENUE: MILITARY THEATRE,

AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE FORCE ACADEMY

CAMPBELL ACT 2600

INQUIRIES TO: SO1 NURS ph(02) 62663085 OR

E-MAIL lyn.burnett@cbr.defence.gov.au