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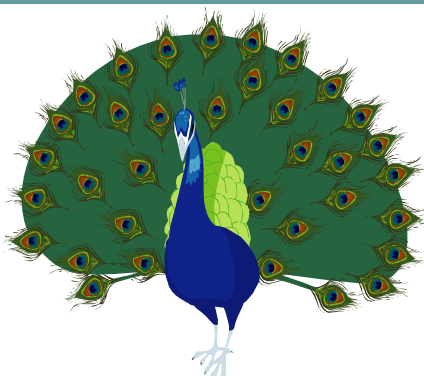
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BULLETIN

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Welcome to this 5th edition of the PCOC bulletin which we hope will keep readers informed about PCOC's progress and prompt discussion on the PCOC email list-server. The list-server is designed to be a group email for the purposes of disseminating information to and from all members on the list. Contact darcy@uow.edu.au if you are interested in participating.

Benchmarking Workshops

In July 2008, PCOC conducted benchmarking workshops in Sydney, Brisbane and Adelaide for 93 staff from 49 of the 51 services submitting data for the fourth PCOC Report. The purposes of the workshops were to get feedback on how best to present the data to be most useful for services and to determine what outcomes should be measured. Consideration was given to what can be learnt from each other about what needs to be improved, what can be learnt from the literature and what is best practice (ie, the benchmark). A number of measures, such as the proportion of patients seen within 24hrs by all palliative care services (time between referral and first contact/assessment or episode start) and the proportion of patients with a change in pain whose score gets worse and the proportion of patients in extreme pain by phase, were discussed.

Mrs. Karen Ford Administration Officer

Karen Ford is the PCOC administration officer based at the University of Wollongong and provides invaluable assistance to the PCOC team based in Wollongong as well as the other PCOC Zone Coordinators. She has responsibility for arrangements for workshops, meetings and training sessions and monitors PCOC expenditure and all statistical information relating to PCOC. Karen is an invaluable member of the team and is happy to help people with their queries.



Palliative Care Nurses Australia conference

Deb and Kathy will be presenting at the PCNA conference in Adelaide in Sept. It will be an opportunity to present the application of PCOC into clinical practice. If any services are currently using the PCOC tools to enhance their clinical practice and are willing to share them, Deb and Kathy would appreciate you forwarding these examples to them. They would also like to thank those services who have shared their ideas.

PCOC Website: http://chsd.uow.edu.au/pcoc/about_pcoc.html