



Sharing ideas and expertise to improve practice together

## Emergency Care Community of Practice Newsletter

### Stories of improvement

This month we feature a story from Nicholas Marlow, Area Manager of the Acute/Post Acute Care (APAC), Northern Sydney Central Coast Health Service. We have outlined key points from the paper Nicholas provided which discussed the effectiveness of providing hospital treatment in the home environment for patients presenting to the Emergency Department (ED) with cellulitis through the collaborative efforts of the APAC Services and the Emergency Department. The results of this intervention were published in the Emergency Medicine Journal ([link to abstract](#)).

### New models of care being trialed

Flinders Medical Centre are trialing the hospital in the home care model for mental health consumers to relieve the demands for mental health services in emergency departments and increase patient capacity. This work has been published: ['Managing increased demand for mental health services in a public hospital emergency department: A trial of 'Hospital in the Home' for mental health consumers](#). *Int J Ment Health Nurs* 2004 13(4):275-281. Bundaberg Integrated Mental Health Service have a similar model of care in place. For more details, please go to the EC CoP webpage and follow the links to the [Mental Health Emergency Care Interface](#) page.

### Teleconference - Closing Emergency Care Evidence Practice Gaps

Guests: Margaret Fry, Jennifer Hearn and Nerida Alexandra from the Emergency Department at St George Hospital (NSW)

Topic: Expanding pain management in the Emergency Department

When: Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2006 1330hrs (EST), [WA 1030hrs, SA/NT 1300hrs, QLD 1230 hrs]

The team from St George Hospital will discuss the challenges and barriers to implementation and how they overcame them to achieve improved pain management processes. Margaret, Jennifer and Nerida received the NICS Evidence Into Action prize last October at the 5th International Emergency Nurses Conference for their paper '[A prospective study of nurse initiated paracetamol: Expanding pain management in the ED](#)'. To join the teleconference dial **1800 200 232**, at the prompt enter **0113**.

### Websites and articles of interest:

- Is It Really an Emergency?: When nonurgent cases overwhelm the ED. *AJN* 2006; 106(1):69-72.
- Analgesia administration for acute abdominal pain in the pediatric emergency department. *Pediatr Emerg Care* 2006 Jan;22(1):18-21 ([Link to abstract](#))
- A review of the use of propofol for procedural sedation in the emergency department. *Emerg Med J* 2006; 23: 89-93
- Oxygen: kill or cure? Prehospital hyperoxia in the COPD patient. *Emerg Med J* 2006; 23: 144-146
- Practical Implementation of the Guidelines for Unstable Angina/Non-ST-Segment Elevation Myocardial Infarction in the Emergency Department. *Ann Emerg Med* 2005;46(2):185-197 ([Link to abstract](#))
- A Randomized Controlled Trial of Magnesium Sulfate, in Addition to Usual Care, for Rate Control in Atrial Fibrillation. *Ann Emerg Med* 2005; 45(4): 347-353 ([Link to abstract](#)).
- Ibutilide for treatment of atrial fibrillation in the emergency department. *Emerg Med J* 2006; 23: 133-134



### Cochrane Reviews

13 new Cochrane Reviews relevant to Emergency care have been added to the [NELH Emergency Care Library](#)

**For more information, links and resources please visit the [Emergency Care Community of Practice webpage](#)**