



Emergency Care Community of Practice Newsletter

The EC CoP pain initiative update

Over 80 hospital emergency departments across Australia have enrolled to undertake the audit of pain management practice. It is estimated that a review of over 4000 records will provide data to indicate current pain management practice in Australian emergency departments. Outcomes of this national audit will be reported in June 2007.

Implementation phase

Implementation of the NHMRC Pain Guidelines for Emergency Departments will begin in late March 2007. An implementation reference group will be formed to advise and plan the implementation of the guidelines in emergency departments. You can nominate yourself or others to join this group by emailing cop@nicssl.com.au. Please include a statement of your interest and the contact details of at least one referee.

Paediatric emergency care

Procedural sedation continues to be the focus for the Paediatric Emergency Care area. Share your story on implementing procedural sedation guidelines with the broader emergency care community by emailing cop@nicssl.com.au.

[> More information on procedural sedation and useful resources](#)

Talk to the experts - February teleconference

There is growing evidence that the way we communicate in day-to-day clinical practice impacts on the quality of care. Professor Enrico Coiera will discuss some of the findings from his research in emergency departments and the reasons for common communication errors.

This is a fantastic opportunity to learn about strategies to reduce adverse outcomes through improved communication.

Topic: Communication in the Emergency care setting and its impact on clinical practice

When: Tuesday 27th February 2:00pm-3:00pm AEDT ([check time zones](#))

Guest: Professor Enrico Coiera, Foundation Chair in Medical Informatics & Director Centre for Health Informatics University of New South Wales

Dial in details: 1800 200 232 and enter PIN 0113 at the prompt

Related publications:

Communication systems in healthcare. *Clin Biochem Rev.* 2006 May;27(2):89-98 ([link to full text](#))

Communication loads on clinical staff in the emergency department. *Med J Aust* 2002 May 176(9):415-8 ([link to full text](#))

Improving clinical communication: a view from psychology. *J Am Med Inform Assoc.* 2000 Sep-Oct;7(5):453-61 ([link to full text](#))

Variation in communication loads on clinical staff in the emergency department. *Ann Emerg Med* 2004 Sep;44(3):268-73 ([link to abstract](#))

Interruptive communication patterns in the intensive care unit ward round. *Int J Med Inform* 2005 Oct;74(10):791-6 ([link to abstract](#))

Articles of interest this month

Management of stroke

Validation and refinement of scores to predict very early stroke risk after transient ischaemic attack. *Lancet* 2007 Jan; 369(9558):283-92 ([link to abstract](#))

Procedural sedation

The safety of single-physician procedural sedation in the emergency department. *Emerg Med J* 2006 Dec; 23(12): 922-3 ([link to abstract](#))

Procedural sedation and analgesia research: state of the art. *Acad Emerg Med* 2007 Feb;14(2):170-8 ([link to abstract](#))

Pain management

Pain assessments and the provision of analgesia: the effects of a templated chart. *Acad Emerg Med* 2007 Jan;14(1):47-52 ([link to abstract](#))

Evidence implementation

Guideline implementation fails to improve thrombolytic administration. *Accid Emerg Nurs*, Jan 2007;15(1):27-33 ([link to abstract](#))

Multifaceted education initiative minimizes pethidine prescribing in the emergency department. *Emerg Med Australas* 2007 Feb;19(1):25-30 ([link to abstract](#))

Evidence-based implementation of adult asthma guidelines in the emergency department: A controlled trial. *Emerg Med Australas* 2007 Jan;19(1): 31-36 ([link to abstract](#))

Improving asthma discharge management in relation to emergency departments: The ADMIRE project *Emerg Med Australas* 2007 Feb;19(1):59-62 ([link to abstract](#))