



January 2008 Newsletter

News

Emergency Care Blog

One of the great benefits of working in the field of emergency care is the culture of sharing ideas and experiences that ultimately make us better clinicians. Over the past year we have had numerous requests for an interactive web site where people can share recent clinical experiences, new evidence, local clinical research, learning packages, etc. To support this idea, we have developed a [Blog site](#).

The site has the following features:

- ⇒ **Discussion forum.** Share what you and your department have recently done to implement best practice with others working in emergency care. Describe a local clinical issue and ask for ideas on how best to deal with it. Get feedback on a draft clinical pathway you are developing. Comment and respond to other people's discussion.
- ⇒ **Resources.** The blog has a resources section that allows users to upload PDF resources that will be of interest to other emergency care clinicians, educators and managers. These may include education packages, clinical guidelines, clinical algorithms, policies, etc. Please contribute to this section... the more documents we have, the more valuable this will be as an online resource.

The blog web address is <https://emergencycare.nhmrc.gov.au/blog/index.php> or you can access the site via the EC CoP web site.

Funding for abdominal pain management in children

Congratulations to Suzanne Williams from Mater Hospital ED who has secured local funding to undertake an interventional study aiming to improve management of children presenting with acute abdominal pain. Mater Hospital participated in the NICS national pain management audit in June last year, and included data from this audit to inform the application.

Articles of interest

[The Geriatric Emergency Department.](#) Journal of the American Geriatrics Society. 2007; Volume 55, Issue 11, Pages 1873-1876.

[Symptom Presentation of Women With Acute Coronary Syndromes: Myth vs Reality.](#) Archives of Internal Medicine. 2007; Volume 167, Issue 22, Pages 2405-2413.

[Safety and Clinical Effectiveness of Midazolam versus Propofol for Procedural Sedation in the Emergency Department: A Systematic Review](#) Academic Emergency Medicine. 2008 Volume 15, Issue 1, Pages 1-8. doi:10.1111/j.1553-2712.2007.00022.x

[Volumetric bladder ultrasound performed by trained nurses increases catheterization success in pediatric patients](#) American Journal of Emergency Medicine. January 2008 Volume 26, Issue 1, Pages 18-23. doi:10.1016/j.ajem.2007.03.020

[Management of Emergency Department Patients With Primary Spontaneous Pneumothorax: Needle Aspiration or Tube Thoracostomy?](#) Annals of Emergency Medicine. January 2008 Volume 51, Number 1, Pages 91-100. doi: 10.1016/j.annemergmed.2007.06.009

To resolve the DOI, go to www.doi.org

Talk to the experts

Our next teleconference is

Wednesday 30 January

with Julie Gawthorne, Clinical Nurse Consultant, St Vincent's Hospital Emergency Department, Sydney.

Teleconference details:

Guest speaker: Julie Gawthorne

Topic: Closing the gap on pain is worth the trauma

Date: Wednesday 30 January

Time: 1.30pm-2.30pm AEST

Phone: 1800 200 232 and enter PIN: 011363 at the prompt.

Julie is a part of the St Vincent's ED team that has introduced an emergency department pain management protocol for patients presenting to the ED following severe trauma. A review of St Vincent's ED trauma patients revealed that only 32% of intubated trauma patients received analgesia. Pain management guidelines were developed and a staff education program developed. Following this intervention, pain management improved, rising from 32% to 68% in the pre and post-implementation group respectively.

2008 Conference news

ACEM Winter Symposium 2-4 July. Newcastle.

CENA 3rd National Conference for Emergency Nurses 28-30 August. Perth *Abstracts close February 29

The National Forum on Safety and Quality in Health Care
29 - 31 October. Adelaide.
<http://www.achs.org.au/nationalforum08/>

Contact us:

National Institute of Clinical Studies
National Health and Medical
Research Council
GPO Box 4530 Melbourne 3001
T. +61 3 8866 0400
F. +61 3 8866 0499
E. scott.bennetts@nhmrc.gov.au
W. www.nhmrc.gov.au/nics