



July 2009 Newsletter

News

H1N1 Emergency Department impact

Ramon Shaban, an active member of the EC CoP, is part of a Queensland team who were successful in an application for NHMRC funding following Australian Government's call for urgent research into H1N1 Influenza 09. The project is titled "Emergency Department impact and patient profile of H1N1 Influenza 09 outbreak in Australia: A national survey". The project, which received \$106,000, is the work of a nationwide team of researchers from five universities with the support of the emergency medicine and nursing colleges. Under the leadership of Professor Gerry Fitzgerald from Queensland University of Technology, the research team will examine the disease profile of H1N1 in patients presenting to EDs and its impact on ED function. The research will help better equip EDs response to pandemic through informed public policy development. The team will report their findings at a NHMRC symposium in December 2009 attended by Australia's Chief Medical Officers and public health experts.

More information: r.shaban@griffith.edu.au

Acupuncture in ED

Acupuncture will be trialled in Melbourne EDs following a successful NHMRC grant awarding more than \$400,000 for a three-year clinical trial. During the trial, people will receive drug therapy, acupuncture or both to treat acute migraine, back pain and ankle injuries. Dr Robyn Parker (FACEM) has already run a pilot program at the Northern Hospital (Melbourne) which showed promising results in managing patients' pain and nausea. The multiple ED acupuncture trials will employ traditional Chinese medicine practitioners who will work alongside Western medical practitioners trained in acupuncture in the ED setting, a first for the Western world.

Articles of interest

PREDICT / NICS paper

Pain management practices in paediatric emergency departments in Australia and New Zealand: A clinical and organizational audit by National Health and Medical Research Council's National Institute of Clinical Studies Paediatric Research in Emergency Departments International Collaborative. *Emergency Medicine Australasia*. 2009; 21, 210-221 [LINK](#)

The role of Emergency Care in Public Health

Emergency clinicians frequently care for patients whose injury or illness could have been prevented. Does this place emergency clinicians, managers and researchers in a position to be able to influence strategies which monitor, screen, educate and advocate for our patients? This article is not new, but puts forward some interesting opportunities for the emergency care field.

Emergency Medicine and Public Health: New Steps in Old Directions.

Annals of Emergency Medicine. December 2001; Vol.38, pp 675-683 [LINK](#)

General interest

Bite-related and septic syndromes caused by cats and dogs. *The Lancet Infectious Diseases*. 2009 July; Vol 9 No.7, pp. 439-447. [LINK](#)

Effectiveness of Amoxicillin/Clavulanate Potassium in the Treatment of Acute Bacterial Sinusitis in Children. *Pediatrics*. July 2009; Vol. 124 No.1, pp. 9-15 [LINK](#)

Cochrane Library

Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs for the common cold.

<http://mrw.interscience.wiley.com/cochrane/clsysrev/articles/CD006362/frame.html>

Resources

Blog feedback needed

www.emergencycare.nhmrc.gov.au/blog

We are currently reviewing the EC CoP Blog site and will be making some major changes in the months ahead. If you have any ideas for improvements that would make it easier for you to keep up to date with the latest research and innovations in emergency care, please email scott.bennetts@nhmrc.gov.au

Fractured NOF in the ED

The 'NHS Evidence - emergency and urgent care' team has produced a helpful resource with a page dedicated to evidence-based hip fracture management. The page includes latest emergency care evidence including pre-hospital care, ED issues, as well as pain management (including femoral nerve blocks). [LINK](#)

DARE Reviews

Recent DARE evidence reviews relevant to emergency care.

<http://www.library.nhs.uk/emergency/Page.aspx?pagename=DARE>

Topics include:

- Imaging for low-back pain [LINK](#)
- Improving time to reperfusion for ST-segment elevation in AMI [LINK](#)
- Biomarkers for kidney injury [LINK](#)
- Efficacy of prone ventilation for acute respiratory failure [LINK](#)
- Evidence for electronic medical records in improving care [LINK](#)
- The role of corticosteroids in severe community-acquired pneumonia [LINK](#)

Conference reminders

CENA 7th International Conference for Emergency Nursing. 7-10 Oct 2009, Gold Coast. [LINK](#)

ACEM 26th Annual Scientific Meeting. 15-19 Nov 2009, Melbourne. [LINK](#)

Contact us:

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