



November / December 2008 Newsletter

News

Nursing Grant Reports

In October 2006, NICS offered four Emergency Care – Closing Gaps grants to emergency nurses to close gaps between evidence and practice in emergency care. This opportunity led to some significant change within the local ED setting.

Project topics included:

- Nursing application of the NEXUS and Canadian Cervical Spine rules
- Implementing the use of metered dose inhaler plus spacers for delivering beta-2 agonists
- Improving the ED management of acute stroke by prevention of early complications

For more information about these projects, download their report summaries from the NICS EC CoP web-site at www.nhmrc.gov.au/nics ([DIRECT LINK](#))

Pain Initiative Update

The issues and innovations related to pain management were presented at a one day ARCHI workshop in November in Cairns QLD which was attended by 40 participants. Included in the workshop was a presentation from Pain Management Initiative Advisory Committee member Meg Hosken. Meg gave an overview of the pain management initiative, the ED Nurse Practitioner role, as well as a presentation on the issues, assessment and management of abdominal pain.

Blog - www.emergencycare.nhmrc.gov.au/blog

There has been some interesting posts and resources loaded to the EC CoP Blog site this month, including topics such as [intranasal morphine](#), [paediatric 'left without being seen'](#), [October EC CoP teleconference notes](#), and [UK Ambulance Service Clinical Practice Guidelines](#).

If you have any learning tools or other resources that you are able to share on the blog, please let us know. Email Scott at scott.bennetts@nhmrc.gov.au

New Emergency Care related Cochrane reviews

Cochrane has released some new reviews related to emergency care which are nicely summarised and linked by the UK's Emergency Care Specialist Library. [LINK](#)

Guideline of the month

The UK Resuscitation Council has updated their anaphylaxis clinical guidelines in 2008. Title: Emergency treatment of anaphylactic reactions: guidelines for healthcare providers. [Portal link to this guideline](#)

Please see the Emergency Care Guideline Portal for more guidelines on this, and many other emergency care topics - www.emergencycare.nhmrc.gov.au/portal

Articles of interest

Anaphylaxis in the emergency department: a paediatric perspective. Current Opinion in Allergy & Clinical Immunology. Vol. 8 Iss. 4, pp. 321-329, August 2008.

[Link to full paper](#)

From roadside to hospital: A pilot study to investigate the factors influencing the time taken to deliver trauma patients to a regional hospital. Journal of Emergency Primary Health Care. 2008; Vol. 6 Iss. 3 [Link to full paper](#)

Nebulisers or spacers for the administration of bronchodilators to those with asthma attending emergency departments? Respiratory Medicine. 2008. July Vol.102 Iss. 7, pp. 993-998. [Link to abstract](#)

Talk to the experts

Don't miss our last teleconference for 2008 where we have a great opportunity to sit down and talk to one of the world's leading specialists in transfusion medicine – Professor James Isbister.

James will be presenting on the hazards of transfusing and what outcomes you should expect.

Teleconference details:

Guest speaker: James Isbister

Topic: 'Current hazards of transfusion and transfusion outcomes'

Date: Tuesday December 2

Time: 1.30pm - 2.30pm AEDT

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

Professor James Isbister is currently Clinical Professor of Medicine, University of Sydney, Adjunct Professor UTS, and Consultant in Haematology and Transfusion Medicine, Royal North Shore Hospital, Sydney. He has over 100 publications in the scientific literature, is the author of three textbooks on haematology and transfusion medicine, and has contributed to chapters in several major textbooks.

Related articles:

- The silent risks of blood transfusion. Current Opinion in Anaesthesiology 2008, 21: 664–668
- Our own blood is still the best thing to have in our veins (Editorial comment). Current Opinion in Anaesthesiology 2008, 21:657–663
- The hazards of blood transfusion in historical perspective. Blood, 1 Oct 2008, Vol.112, Number 7.

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