



NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF CLINICAL STUDIES

Wednesday October 1, 2008

MEDIA RELEASE

NHMRC welcomes new NICS Fellowship leaders in health care

Six new leaders in Australian health care celebrated the completion of their NICS Fellowships at a ceremony held Tuesday 30 September in Melbourne, benefiting areas as diverse as cancer pain, heart failure, falls and blood clot prevention.

NICS Fellowships offer a unique opportunity to health professionals who share a passion for ensuring the best available evidence is practised. Having identified an area within their own discipline where evidence exists but is not being applied in routine care, NICS Fellows are provided with support and mentoring to undertake an implementation project which addresses this gap and improves health outcomes for patients.

In acknowledging the importance of NICS Fellowships, the NHMRC's Chief Executive Officer, Professor Warwick Anderson said "The NHMRC is committed to supporting future leaders in health care. NICS Fellowships are highly successful in developing experts in evidence implementation and nurturing leaders who can take this knowledge beyond their programs to help others build a healthier Australia."

NICS Fellows graduating in 2008 are:

Dr Jane Munro, NICS Fellow 2005-2008, Paediatric Rheumatologist, Royal Children's Hospital, Victoria
Project: Kids' comfort: improving procedural pain management in children and adolescents within a tertiary paediatric hospital

Dr Melanie Benson, NICS-VQC Fellow 2006-2008, Palliative Care Consultant, Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre, Victoria
Project: Improving the management of cancer pain

Dr Taryn Bessen, NICS-RANZCR Fellow 2006-2008, Consultant Radiologist, Royal Adelaide Hospital, South Australia
Project: Improving the uptake of imaging guidelines in the emergency department

Clinical Associate Professor Stacy Goergen, NICS-RANZCR Fellow 2006-2008, Director of Research, Department of Diagnostic Imaging, Southern Health, Victoria
Project: Promoting evidence-based diagnostic testing for suspected venous thromboembolism .../2

WORKING TO BUILD A HEALTHY AUSTRALIA

www.nhmrc.gov.au/nics

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Ms Cheryl Kimber, NICS-SA DoH Fellow 2006-2008, Nurse Practitioner Orthopaedics, Flinders Medical Centre, South Australia

Project: Preventing osteoporosis-related fractures from happening again

Dr Sepehr Shakib, NICS-SA DoH Fellow 2006-2008, Director of Clinical Pharmacology, Royal Adelaide Hospital, South Australia

Project: Improving the management of heart failure at the interface of the hospital and community

NICS PhD Scholars:

Two NICS PhD Scholars are also congratulated for completing their scholarships this year and for adding new knowledge to the field of implementation science. They are:

Ms Sonja Hood, NICS Scholar 2004-2008, School of Population Health, University of Melbourne, Victoria

Project: Getting evidence into practice: the management of heart failure in Australia

Ms Ruth Sladek, NICS Scholar 2004-2008, Flinders University, South Australia

Project: Understanding doctors' cognitive processes and how this influences uptake of new research evidence

The National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) is Australia's peak body for supporting health and medical research. As part of the NHMRC, the National Institute of Clinical Studies (NICS) works to improve health care by getting health and medical research into practice.

For information about the NICS Leadership Program and the projects undertaken by these Fellows:

www.nhmrc.gov.au/nics

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Note: Additional photographs are available on request.

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