

October 2010

This update welcomes you to the new and improved [Cancer Learning](#)! Today we launch a new section of the site: [Share](#) – an area of the site that encourages the involvement of all Australian cancer professionals in the ongoing development of the site, to ensure that it meets all of your educational and professional development needs. Share contains information to assist you to [contribute your ideas](#) and initiatives for new programs and resources for which you have identified a gap or need; to help you [evaluate the educational quality](#) of online learning activities; to support you to [locate and successfully apply](#) for funding grants, either individually or collaboratively; and to provide opportunities for you to more actively participate in the future direction of both the site and Australian cancer care initiatives. Share invites you to [tell us](#) what you need and how we can best support you and the cancer workforce to build knowledge and skills and undertake professional development that enhances your job satisfaction and, in turn, improves the care and outcomes for patients. We look forward to receiving your submissions as well as your feedback about this new section of the site.

Welcome PSGC

You will notice on the new, more navigation friendly (we hope!) front page that there is a new, green icon. This will shortly be a link to access the brand new [Psychosexual Care of Women Affected By Gynaecological Cancer \(PSGC\) modules](#), being developed by a team at Queensland University of Technology, that will be launched before the end of the year and hosted on Cancer Learning . Until the launch, you can click on this logo for further information about the project objectives and some details about what you can expect from this fantastic new resource. Watch this space for more details next month!

EdCaN News

Also coming soon– an enhancement to the EdCaN suite of learning resources: interactive Point of Care and Navigation Guides. These hyperlinked documents will assist you to locate information and learning-on-the-run activities relevant to specific topics and competencies of cancer nursing quickly and easily. Keep an eye out for them in the coming months!

October News

COSA 2010 ASM

COSA is coming! The ASM will be held in Melbourne in the week 8-12 November – the full program including daily schedules and registration information for the many pre and post program, SIG meeting and breakfast session (places are limited!) is now available at: http://www.cosa2010.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=70&Itemid=76. Cancer Learning will be in the exhibition area at the Cancer Australia booth, with both Cancer Learning and EdCaN representatives ready and willing to show you through our resources and discuss your CPD needs with you – come and say hello! If you haven't registered, bought your tickets to the dinner or need any further information, visit the conference website here. We look forward to meeting you there!

Lung Cancer Fellowship

Applications will open in January 2011 for the **NH&MRC & Cancer Australia Translating Research into Practice (TRIP) Fellowship** in the uptake of evidence into clinical practice for lung cancer. The

Fellowship provides an opportunity for an early career health professional to improve the translation of research findings into clinical practice for the management of lung cancer and to improve care and outcomes. For more information about TRIP Fellowships eligibility, criteria and applications, please check the NH&MRC website in early 2011 at <http://www.nhmrc.gov.au>.

Upcoming Events

For more information about these and other coming events, see Key Events in the [News](#) section.

- ▶ 31 October - 6 November is *International Brain Tumour Awareness Week*, organised by the International Brain Tumour Alliance (IBTA). For further information, please see the [IBTA](#) website.
- ▶ The Garvan Institute of Medical Research is hosting a *Translational Genomics Symposium* on 30 November 2010 at The Garvan Institute, Darlinghurst, Sydney. The symposium will provide an opportunity for International and Local speakers to discuss how genomic information can potentially be translated into the clinical setting. Speakers include Tom Hudson who heads the ICGC and Rob Sutherland who has recently been made an Officer of the Order of Australia and is the 2010 recipient of Cancer Institute NSW Premier's Award for Outstanding Cancer Researcher.
- ▶ Health care professionals who want an intensive update in pain management are welcome to apply for the *Pain Management Multidisciplinary Short Course 2011*, a residential program offered by the Pain Management Research Institute (PMRI), a joint initiative between the University of Sydney and Royal North Shore Hospital. Week One runs 7-10 February 2011 and Week Two runs 14-17 February 2011. The two week (Monday - Thursday each week) short course is based on the IASP core curriculum and facilitated by leading specialists in the field of pain management. It is designed for professionals with an interest in learning about current views and approaches to the assessment and management of pain

New Resources on Cancer Learning this month...

Evidence & Treatments Learning Activities

[Professional Cancer Profiler Tools](#)

The Nexcura Professional Cancer Profiler tools are free, comprehensive tools that repurpose scientific publications to provide fast access to evidence based clinical information at the point-of-care, to ensure more informed decisions for Healthcare Professionals. They act as interactive decision support tools that can be viewed and searched in a variety of formats to answer the question "What does the clinical information mean to me?" and are available for Breast, Bladder, Colorectal, Lung - Non-Small Cell, Lung - Small Cell, Melanoma, Ovarian and Prostate.

Fundamentals of Oncology Learning Activities

This month, we have added links to some free, online CPD modules developed specifically for cancer nurses:

[Nurse Oncology Education Program](#)

Developed by Texas Nurses Association, these free CME activities include modules regarding AYA issues; hereditary and genetics; prevention, screening and early detection; nutrition; pain management and survivorship. Please note that courses have expiry dates listed.

[Oncolink](#)

Oncolink offers a broad range of free, online CME modules regarding various aspects of cancer care nursing, dysgeusia and nausea; including the management of chemotherapy induced conditions such as anaemia, cognitive impairment, peripheral neuropathy and diarrhoea. Modules involve reading and a post test.

Coordination of Care Resources

[ASCO Cancer Treatment Plans and Summaries](#)

The ASCO Cancer Treatment Plan and Summary is a brief record of a patients' cancer treatment that provides a convenient way to store information about each patients' cancer, cancer treatment, and follow-up. A general template is available or specific plans are available for breast, colon and lung cancers and lymphoma. Survivorship care plans are also available to document long term, follow up care needs.

Adolescent and Young Adult Cancer

[Graduate Certificate of Adolescent Health and Welfare: Oncology Stream](#)

This multidisciplinary course was developed by the Centre for Adolescent Health (Royal Children's Hospital, Melbourne) and the OnTrac@Peter Mac Victorian Adolescent and Young Adult Cancer Service under the guidance of a National Curriculum Advisory Committee comprised of leading adult, paediatric and AYA oncology practitioners from across the country. The course is offered part time and delivered via a combination of distance education and online learning. Students will explore a range of theoretical, policy, research and practice perspectives and use these insights to develop enhanced strategies for working with young people with cancer and their extended networks. The learning and assessment approaches used in the course aim to encourage active learning and application of new adolescent health knowledge and skills in 'real world' settings relevant to students' professional practice. Scholarships are available.

Supportive Care Resources

[Beyond Blue Information about Depression and Anxiety for Cancer Patients](#)

Adding to their comprehensive suite of downloadable, cancer specific resources about anxiety, depression and mental health for cancer patients, their carers and families, including helpful strategies to deal with signs of distress; *beyondblue* has this week launched a new fact sheet, [Brain tumours, depression and anxiety disorders](#).

Primary Care

[Radiology Online](#)

Free, limited access to *Radiology Online* is available to rural and remote doctors, hosted through ACRRM's Rural and Remote Medical Education Online (RRMEO) and funded by the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing under the Medical Specialist Outreach Assistance Program (MSOAP). *Radiology Online* is a resource designed for rural medical practitioners interested in obtaining radiology advice and education, moderated by Dr Tony Lamont, Chief Radiologist at the Townsville Base Hospital in Queensland. Enrolled doctors can submit digital x-ray images of cases and obtain personalised feedback, work through online cases and access a condition index, links to external sites, education resources and discussion forums.

Palliative Care

[ANZSPM Revised Draft Clinical Indicators for Pain](#)

Feedback is sought for the ANZSPM's document developed by the Clinical Indicator Working Group on a set of clinical indicators in various domains and is seeking feedback on the 3 clinical indicators in the domain of pain. There are 3 indicators in the pain screening, assessment and management set: Pain intensity quantified; Plan of care for pain; and Aperients/laxatives initiated in patients on opioids. Should you wish to contribute any comments, please forward them to Dr Rohan Vora, Chair, Clinical Indicator Working Group: rohan_vora@health.qld.gov.au

Palliative Care Australia resources

We now link to many Palliative Care Australia resources on the [Palliative Care](#) page, including [Standards](#) for the provision of quality palliative care; guidelines and activities regarding a [palliative approach to residential aged care](#); [multilingual patient information](#) and the [National Palliative Care](#)

[Service Directory](#) to assist the community and health professionals to access information about palliative care services, primary care services providing care at the end of life and a range of other services providing support to people with life limiting illness.

[Bereavement Care Centre](#)

The Bereavement Care Centre offers a variety of skills-focused courses for health professionals in bereavement counselling, developed around a core three day course. Specialist courses regarding working with dying and bereaved adults and children, as well as postgraduate courses are also available.

[Pain and Symptom Management Evaluation Tools](#)

The National Palliative Care Research Centre has compiled links to a selection of available tools for measuring pain and assessing and tracking the level of symptoms that can be downloaded as PDFs. Some of the linked tools include Edmonton Symptom Assessment Scale (ESAS), Fatigue Inventory, McGill Pain Inventory, Memorial Symptom Assessment Scale (MSAS), Needs at the End-of-life Screening Tool (NEST), Palliative Care Outcome Scale (POS) and Wong-Baker FACES Pain Rating Scale.

What do you think?

Let us know what you think of the website, the new sections that are being added, [submit](#) resources for evaluation and inclusion and suggest any ideas you may have for improvements to Cancer Learning by emailing info@cancerlearning.gov.au or completing the online [feedback](#) form.

Til next month, happy learning!

The Cancer Learning Team

Please feel free to forward this newsletter to anyone you think would benefit from it. You can [register](#) for monthly email update newsletters [here](#).

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