

Office of the Chief Nurse Communiqué

June 2010

Office of the Chief Nurse Communiqués are produced monthly for Directors of Nursing of public health services. Communiqués are also available on the *Nursing in Victoria* website <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/nursing/principal>

The greying of Australia presents a number of challenges and opportunities in terms of models of service delivery and the way health professionals work together across traditional sectors and boundaries.

Recently I have been visiting aged care facilities and my view is that a key challenge is the interface between support staff and health professionals and the various competencies of these occupational groups.

Wild et al in the UK (May 2010) have recently described the increasing tension in providing care to an ageing population that have increasing health care rather than social care needs. This is within the context of wanting to provide a home-like environment and clearly has flow on implications for the education, confidence and professionalism of care staff and requires stronger relationships with community nurses and GP's.

The Productivity Commission's recently established Inquiry into Aged Care will be focusing on the following key areas: the service delivery framework, funding and regulatory arrangements, government roles and responsibilities, workforce requirements, and reform options and transitional arrangements.

I encourage nurses to engage with this work and recommend that you read the Issues Paper: Caring for Older Australians May 2010 and to consider how to have input into this process.



Adj Professor Belinda Moyes
Chief Nursing Advisor

Nursing & Midwifery student employment

Work on this project is progressing with:

- Student Survey - **Closes 20 July 2010**

Directors of Nursing are requested to promote the survey to nursing and midwifery students employed or on clinical placement at their service.

- Health Service Survey –opens soon

This survey will assist us to understand nursing and midwifery student employment patterns, as

well as the cost and benefits of different approaches/arrangements.

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www.health.vic.gov.au/nursing/career/nursing-student-employment-project

Nursing & Midwifery Excellence Awards

This is the eighth year of the awards and call for nominations open, **1 July 2010**. Nomination forms, term and conditions can be found at <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/nursing/awards>.

Nominations close 5pm **Friday 20 August 2010**, so don't miss out

The awards include a \$10,000 scholarship each to allow the nominee to further develop and promote their initiative and the presentation ceremony will be held on **15 September 2010** at 5.30pm.

NP contact: Lisa.broun@health.vic.gov.au

<http://www.health.vic.gov.au/nursing/awards>

Seminar with Dr Sean Clarke & Prof Nancy Donaldson

As part of the *Connections and Directions* forums, Directors of Nursing and senior staff are invited to a seminar with international guest speakers Dr Sean Clarke and Prof Nancy Donaldson.

Dr Clarke holds the Chair in Cardiovascular Research at the University of Toronto and the University Health Network in Toronto, and Prof Donaldson is Clinical Professor and founding Director, Centre for Nursing Research & Innovation, University of California, San Francisco School of Nursing.

Please mark **Friday 6 August 2010** in your diary, Registration details will be distributed shortly with further details of the event.

NP contact: Lisa.broun@health.vic.gov.au

Nurse Policy: Building capacity and capability in the Victorian nursing and midwifery workforce



A Victorian
Government
initiative

Department

Please circulate me to wards/areas where nurses and midwives work in your organisation!