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It is 10 years since the Victorian Centre for Ambulatory care Innovation (VCAI) was established as a resource centre for Victorian hospital-in-the-home programs.

Over the last 10 years we expanded our services to include the other states and changed our name to Ambulatory Care Australia (ACA) to reflect this. We have had several staff and structure changes since the Centre was conceived by Assoc/Prof Lexie Spehr and initially funded by the Victorian Department of Human Services. Our current membership now extends as far away as New Zealand, Ireland and Greece and we have received request for information from health professionals in several countries including Brazil.

ACA cannot function without the input and experience of its members particularly when it comes to the HITH Line. Thankyou to everyone who contributes to the HITH Line as your experience helps others working in this area of healthcare.

Following the success of the 2006 CAPAC and HITH Seminar another seminar is planned for the 18th and 19th of October 2007 in Sydney. Further details including the call for abstracts will be forwarded in the next month.

For those interested in disease management we will be running several breakfast seminars in 2007 as well as the National Conference in September please check our website at www.adma.org.au for further details.

We would very much appreciate your feedback on ways ACA can assist HITH programs and we would also appreciate any contributions to this Newsletter.

The ACA Team
(Kaylene, Marion, Lisa)

Recent requests from the HITH Chat Line

The most recent queries that we received include requests for information on the following:

- HITH services for Nursing Home patients
- Supply or application of support stockings in managing DVT
- Management of medical review process for HITH clients
- Protocols on management of DVT and PE in HITH
- Transportation of emergency drugs in vehicles
- Policy on death at home for ambulatory care patients

HITH Directory

As the HITH Resource and Service Directory is out of date we are contemplating producing a new edition in 2007 and would value your comments on its usefulness and on the content. Please email comments to aca@alfred.org.au. If your program was not listed in the previous edition or know of any other programs or services that should be included please forward the details.

Industry News

Smith & Nephew has new look retail pharmacy packs from the Healthcare in the Home range.

These new packs have been developed to reflect feedback from pharmacy staff and consumers.

Features include

- Indication bar to aid product selection
- Application photograph showing the dressing in use with clear product benefits
- Photograph of the dressing on the back of the pack at actual size
- Retention of the background color to create continuity between original and new packs
- Same contents and quantity of dressing per pack

The following products have transitioned to new packaging.

| | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| ALLEVYN™ THIN 5cm x 6cm | ALLEVYN THIN 10cmx10cm |
| BACTIGRAS™ 10cm X 10 cm | JELONET™ 10cm X 10 cm |
| MELOLIN™ 5cm x 5cm | MELOLIN™ 10cm x 10cm |
| OPSITE™ FLEXIGRID™ 6cm x 7cm | OPSITE™ POST-OP 6.5cm x 5cm |
| OPSITE™ POST-OP 9.5cm x 8.5cm | PRIMAPORE™ 8.3cm x 6cm |
| PRIMAPORE™ Dressing Strip 6cm x 1m | |
| SOLOSITE™ Gel 50g | |

Website: www.smith-nephew.com.au/healthcare

Websites of Interest

OPAT (Outpatient Parenteral Antibiotic Therapy)

www.opat.com/

National Home Infusion Association

www.nhianet.org/index.cfm

Association for Vascular Access (AVA)

www.avainfo.org/

Infusion Nurses Society (INS)

www.ins1.org/

American Academy of Home Care Physicians

www.aahcp.org/

Some overseas HITH Programs

Hospital at Home at John Hopkins School of Public Health

<http://www.hospitalathome.org/dgm/>

Tara Healthcare, Ireland

<http://tarahealth.com/homecare/index1.html>

Homed, Greece

<http://www.hospitalathome.gr/indexEN.htm>

Upcoming Conferences

Advances in Remote Technology Realising the Promise of Integrated and Comprehensive Patient Care. (*Cybersession*)

May 10 2007

Hyatt Regency Denver, Colorado, USA

W: <http://cme.cybersessions.org/HRS/>

INS Annual Meeting and Industrial Exhibition

June 4-7 2007

Rosen Centre Hotel, Orlando, Florida, USA

W: www.ins1.org/

Innovations Clinical Pathways: Sharing the Lessons Learnt

28-29 June 2007

Eden on the Park, Melbourne, VIC

W: www.changechampions.com.au/

2nd Healthcare Without Walls: Delivering the Best Care in the Best Place

2-3 August 2007

Carlton Crest, Brisbane QLD

W: www.changechampions.com.au

5th Australasian Conference on Safety and Quality in Health Care - The Power of Us

6-8 August 2007

Brisbane Convention Centre, QLD

W: www.sapmea.asn.au/conventions/sqhc2007/index.html

3rd Australasian Congress on Negative Pressure Wound Therapy & Emerging Wound Healing Technologies-New Horizons

10-11 August 2007

Sydney, NSW

W: www.new-horizons.com.au

12th World Congress on Health (Medical) Informatics

20-24 August 2007

Brisbane Convention Centre, QLD

W: www.medinfo2007.org

Achieving Excellence in Vascular Access

7-10 September 2007

Phoenix, Arizona, USA

W: www.avainfo.org/website/article.asp?id=102918

Disease Management is it Worth it?

6-7 September 2007

Park Hyatt, Melbourne, VIC

W: www.adma.org.au

CAPAC & HITH Conference

18-19 October 2007

Sydney, NSW

Details to follow

Skill Mix and Workforce Development: sharing the lessons learnt

22-23 November 2007

Hilton on the Park, Melbourne, VIC

W: www.changechampions.com.au/