



australasian neuroscience nurses association movement disorder chapter

Annual General Meeting Report

2016-2017

4th August 2017

It has been an exciting year for collaboration and development for the Movement Disorder Chapter (MDS) of ANNA. The MDC committee has been meeting 1-2 times per month consistently for the past 12 months. I am very proud to report on the many achievements that have clearly addressed our five domains of focus, including Education, Clinical Practice, Professional Development, Leadership and Research, in addition to the challenges, of the past 12 months.

Education

Tier 1 and 2.

Parkinson's Disease Self-Directed Learning Package for Nurses

The Westmead Movement Disorder Nursing team developed this learning package. It is targeted towards nurses in acute hospitals, aged care facilities, primary health and the community; providing them with an excellent overview of PD, the pathophysiology, symptomatology and nursing care strategies. The document has been reviewed by the PD Nurses in NSW and then the wider national community. After this rigorous review process it has been stamped with the ANNA logo and is now ready for distribution. This package will be made available on the ANNA MDC website.

Educational meetings

While there has been an increase in the number of educational meetings held nationally under the ANNA banner over the last 12 months, we hope that more states will embrace the opportunity to collaborate locally and access the event office support that PAMS provides.

NSW will hold the annual PD Education day for Nurses "Pump Friends" on the 8th August. We expect over 50 people to attend this meeting. This year we have budgeted for the printing of the learning package above.

Tier 3.

Joint MDSANZ and Nurses meeting

The MDSANZ hold a biannual conference, which is in September 2017 at the Gold Coast. This year the MDSANZ invited ANNA to join them. While nurses have always been welcome to attend this meeting, this is the first time we have been invited as a body. The Committee would like to acknowledge the generosity of industry in providing funding to Parkinson's

Australasian Neuroscience Nurses' Association
PO Box 546 East Melbourne VIC Australia 3002
Phone: (03) 9895 4461
Fax: (03) 9898 0249
Email: admin@anna.asn.au

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ABN 45 502 070 837



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Victoria to facilitate airfare and some accommodation assistance for nurses to attend. Parkinson's Victoria were also very supportive and relocated the original Melbourne venue to the Gold Coast. As a result of this collaboration between MDSANZ, P Vic and the various state affiliates, industry and the ANNA MDC, the nurses meeting will be held the day before the medical meeting.

Australian College of Nursing Course

Parkinson's WA has been in negotiations with the Australian College of Nursing, and have successfully negotiated the development of a new Parkinson's Care subject. This will be ready to deliver to students as a single subject or third term elective as part of the Graduate Certificates in Aged Care Nursing, or Community and Primary Health, in July 2018.

The ANNA MDC strongly supports the writers Janet McLeod in WA, and David Tsui NSW and course reviewer Victor McConvey in Victoria.

Westmead Education Day

In November 2016 the team at Westmead held their inaugural Movement Disorder education Day, targeting the advanced practice nurse. The program attracted nurses from across the country, including Hong Kong. It is worth noting that nurses were not supported by industry and self-funded their attendance. This is significant because as the numbers of PD nurses increase nationally, the current model of sponsored attendance at meetings we are used to will become unsustainable. It is evidence that an outstanding program can stand alone in attracting attendees. This meeting is scheduled to be held again on the 17th November 2017.

Clinical Practice.

Apomorphine Position Statement

We are aware of the difficulties that have surrounded Apomorphine therapy now that 2 products have been available in Australia since early 2017. We felt that there were issues surrounding the use of Apomorphine preparations, pumps, consumables and industry nursing support services that required some clarification and direction. We consulted with both companies to develop a statement that was released jointly with the Movement Disorder Society of Australian and New Zealand. This is the first position statement of its kind, nurse led and jointly released with the MDSANZ.

Professional Development.

Practice Standards

We have developed Parkinson's Disease and Movement Disorder Nurse Specialist

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Standards for Practice. This document was a collaborative effort, with multiple nurses contributing as authors or reviewers. It has been sent to a review panel of 5 nurses and will be released at the PD Nurses meeting in September 2017. It will be available on the ANNA MDC website.

The development of a formal competency framework for Australasian nurses working within Movement Disorders supports the future development of Nurse Practitioner and Nurse Specialist roles and identifies the level of competency required to practice as a "Movement Disorders Nurse Specialist, Consultant or Practitioner". This document is for nurses working with people with Parkinson's disease and other movement disorders. It provides a framework for professional development, to uphold evidence based nursing practice, facilitate recognition and the expansion of specialist nursing positions across Australia. These standards have been developed with reference to the current NMBA RN and NP standards for practice, in addition to the Professional Standards for Neuroscience Nurses (ANNA, 2013).

Leadership

Parkinson's Collaborative Group

The Parkinson's Collaborative Group consists of a small number of experts in the field of Parkinson's, encompassing medical, nursing, allied health and health advocacy. The group has drawn on information from many sources about the perceived needs and shortfalls in services for people with Parkinson's in our community to produce the "Call to Action in Parkinson's Disease". It documents pragmatic recommendations to improve the delivery of care for today's people with Parkinson's, which are imminently achievable with policy and budgetary support from Federal and State Health Departments.

This year the nurses in this group were representing the ANNA MDC, now recognised as the peak body for PD nursing in Australia. We were alongside medical and consumer peak bodies, the MDSANZ, and Parkinson's Australia. This recognition has resulted in much of the collaboration that has been mentioned above.

World Parkinson Coalition

The World Parkinson Coalition has contacted ANNA and the MDC seeking ways to advertise the World Parkinson Congress in Kyoto 4-7 June 2019. While this partnership is in the very early stages of first contact, we look forward to working with them as they bring this international conference to our region of the world.

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Website.

The development of a website is an integral part of our ability to function for the PD Nurse community. It provides a centre point for communication of events, news and updates and provides access to resources. It will also hold links to the organisations we collaborate with.

Throughout the website development stages, in order to maintain a webpage inline with the existing ANNA site, we decided to engage the Woof Byte services. As they have already been utilised by ANNA this enabled us to streamline the design and functions with ease. Fortunately, due to strong pre-existing industry relationships that the chapter committee has, we were successful in obtaining sufficient funding to support this.

In the future, we are considering both free access and member only sections within our webpage. This website should be operational by early August and will be launched at the nurses meeting at the Gold Coast.

Research

There are a variety of research projects that are underway across the country. The state based nurses meetings and the national meetings provide nurses with the opportunity to collaborate, and support each other in these ventures.

At the 2016 Nurses meeting Janet McLeod and Victor McConvey took a survey aimed at gathering information on the level and type of education that PD nurses have. This has provided helpful information in planning the development of the ACN course.

The committee plan to develop an online survey that will build on this work and collect ongoing data that will help track the workforce demographics of PD nurses in Australia. This information will be valuable to the future development of our specialty.

Emma Everingham, Amy Jones, Sheree Ambrosini, David Tsui, and I are looking forward to the Nurses meeting at the Gold coast where much of the past years work will be launched. We thank the ANNA executive for the support they have provided and look forward to the next 12 months.

Sue Williams
Chair MDC ANNA

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