

Movement Disorder Chapter Report

AGM 2016

The establishment of the Movement Disorder Chapter of ANNA was voted into the constitution at the 2015 AGM. In April 2016 the PD nurses in Australia met together at the National UCB Conference in Melbourne and the committee members were nominated and elected.

Chair – Sue Williams, Royal North Shore Hospital, NSW

Vice Chair – Emma Everingham, Westmead Public and Private, Sydney, NSW

Treasurer – Amy Jones, Royal Brisbane Hospital, QLD

Secretary – Sheree Ambrosini, Goulburn Valley Health, Victoria

Web Master – David Tsui, Westmead Public Hospital, NSW

Since April the committee have met 1-2 times per month via skype. These meetings have helped to consolidate us as a team as we get to know each other and our individual strengths better. It is a pleasure to provide some details on our achievements so far.

Achievements

1. We have developed our mission statement. This was sent out for comment to the wider Australian PD nurse population, was finalised in July, and is now ready to upload to the website. Refer to document attached.
2. The PD nurses in NSW continue to meet on a quarterly basis. The QLD nurses held their first meeting in early August. The aim of these meetings is to provide professional support, education and build relationships. The NSW nurses have come to value these meetings, as they reduce the geographic isolation we all work in, and have led to the development of clinical resources and education packages. It is hoped that this model will roll out to the other states. All that is required is a local champion to arrange a date and venue, and ask a Pharma company to pay for lunch.
3. The annual Parkinson's Disease Education Day for Nurses held in NSW on the 23rd August was the first education day held under the ANNA MDC banner. This event is affectionately known as "Pump Friends" and is a Tier 1 event. PD Nurses in NSW hold this event for nurses who care for people on apomorphine pumps. These nurses are from acute wards, the community and aged care facilities. Previously this event has been solely sponsored by Hospira, now Pfizer. This year we extended the sponsorship to include Stada and Abbvie, as we also expanded the program to include Duodopa pumps by breaking in to 2 afternoon workshop groups. PAMS supported an online registration process, which enabled us to charge for the event. \$36 covered the cost of lunch, morning and afternoon tea, and the PAMS registration handling fee per person. The Sponsorship covered the facility hire and lunch for the speakers. As this program has been held for 6 years, we know it is well attended and gains very positive feedback. The speakers donate their time, some traveling over 4 hours to contribute. It was encouraging to find that the new \$36 registration fee did not deter numbers from attending. The lesson for next year is we will ask for more sponsorship from the pharma companies so we can also cover the cost of printing education

packages, and consider charging \$40. We are excited at the prospect of QLD Nurses replicating this event in the near future, and encourage any state to use this model.

Work in Progress.

David Tsui has updated a Parkinson's Disease Learning package previously endorsed by the NSW PD Nurses. It is targeted at acute care, aged care and community nurses who care for people with Parkinson's disease. We plan to have this document reviewed by PD nurses in other states so that it can be endorsed by the MDC and uploaded to the website within the next couple of months.

Sue Williams has developed a Duodopa procedure document in conjunction with the PD nurses in NSW and the Abbvie Duodopa nurses. This document is currently distributed on request to centres setting up a Duodopa service. We plan to have this document reviewed by PD nurses in other states so that it too can be endorsed by the MDC and uploaded to the website within the next couple of months.

Plans for the Future

- A national conference for PD and MD nurses in 2017
- Formalise partnerships with Parkinson's Australia and each state based organisation
- Formalise partnerships with the Movement Disorder Association of Australia
- Development of an Australian competency framework for Parkinson's disease and Movement Disorder Nurse Specialists
- Development of an Australian clinical framework for the care of people with Parkinson's disease.
- Development of education pathways for Parkinson's disease and Movement Disorder Nurse Specialists

The committee acknowledges that these are huge projects and will require the expertise of Parkinson's disease and Movement Disorder Nurse Specialists from across the country. We aim to involve as many interested nurses as possible.

Challenges

Currently we have limited buy in from the PD nurses across the country. Things are seen to be very NSW centric. There is also some pessimism as similar professional bodies have been tried before with limited success. In order to overcome these issues we have sought to engage as many people as possible. The invitation for nominations for the committee went out across the country resulting in candidates from QLD, Vic and NSW. We have asked for and received comments from PD nurses across the country on the mission statement. As soon as the Web page is ready we will upload the mission statement and relevant links to existing resources.

We acknowledge that communication is crucial to the development of the MDC. This is currently done via email according to a list that has been put together at previous national conferences. Emails go out from the Chairs work email address for consistency and focus. We would like to develop a more formal means of communication in the form of a regular newsletter that members receive. By developing benefits to the member such as access to

news and updates, education and clinical packages we hope that the MDC of ANNA will develop into the hub of the Australian PD Nurse community. This in turn will facilitate further growth and development.

It is encouraging to reflect on what we have achieved in our first year. I am look forward to what the next year brings.

Sue Williams
Chair MDC ANNA