

No. 13 December 2009

FIRST ADVISORY GROUP MEETING

The big event this month for NSFANZ was the inaugural meeting of the Advisory Group.

Eleven national nursing organisations were invited to nominate representatives to form an expert advisory group on smoking cessation interventions by nurses.

Fifteen delegates from across the country representing these 11 groups came together at the offices of the Quit Group to discuss how nurses can be supported to complete ABC smoking cessation intervention training and to deliver interventions.

Ashley Bloomfield, Acting Deputy Director-General Sector Capability & Innovation Directorate, said that smoking related diseases are the single leading cause of preventable deaths in New Zealand. They are twelve times the annual road toll. In his opinion, not to offer NRT (Nicotine Replacement Therapy) to smokers in hospital should be recorded as a serious or sentinel event.

Mark Jones, Chief Nurse of New Zealand, outlined how DHBs had performed against the government's Health Target of providing better help for smokers to quit.

"Nurses are instrumental in helping DHBs reach this target if they perform a smoking cessation intervention each time they encounter a client who smokes" said Mark.

[http://www.moh.govt.nz/moh.nsf/Files/healthtargets-0910/\\$file/health-targets-200910-overview-v2.pdf](http://www.moh.govt.nz/moh.nsf/Files/healthtargets-0910/$file/health-targets-200910-overview-v2.pdf) shows how your DHB is performing.

Pauline Allan-Downs took the group on the journey that she had made by starting the initiative in the 1990s to bring nurses together to address the issue of smoking cessation. This culminated in her being a member of the ABC Approach Steering Group.

Dawn Acker developed this theme by introducing the ABC e-learning programme to the group and showing how the application of it had worked within her DHB – Southland.

Grace Wong then spoke to the group about the purpose of NSFANZ being to increase quit rates and decrease initiation and relapse among nursing clients and the public.

A key task identified in the Terms of Reference of the group that Grace presented was work within their respective nursing organisations to promote smoking cessation interventions by nurses.

Group members, before they left the meeting, were asked to take the message back to their nursing organisations to work on how their task could be implemented.

Subsequent to the meeting a media release about it was given to Kai Tiaki and Nursing Review. Both have since confirmed that they will write an appropriate article.



Back row: Jeff Gage, NETS; Marlene Thomson, Occupational Health Nurses; Mark Jones, Chief Nurse of NZ; Michael Connolly, Te Ao Maramatanga; Diana Hart, NZNO; Carol Ford, College of Nurses; Lynn Stevenson NSFANZ, Tio Sewell, Te Ao Maramatanga

Middle row: Lee Carpenter, Nurse Practitioners; Kerri Nuku, Te Runanga; 'Eseta Finau, NZNO Pacific Nursing Section; Faith Roberts MoH; Judith Vercoe, Occupational Health Nurses; Dawn Acker, NSFANZ; Christine Andrews, MoH; Evelyn Hikuroa, NSFANZ Maori Strategy;

Front Row: Gene Lewis Clark, Wharangi Ruamano; Hineroa Hakiaha, Te Kaunihera O Neehi Maori O Aotearoa; Cherene Neilson-Hornblow, Wharangi Ruamano; Pauline Allan-Downs, ABC Approach Steering Group; Nancy Allan, College of Nurses. In addition, Diana Gunn was present representing NENZ

JENNIFER PERCIVAL – NURSE EXTRAORDINAIRE

In February and March 2010 Jennifer will be visiting New Zealand in a private capacity but she also has offered to help spread the word about smoking cessation interventions to our nursing workforce.



Jennifer specialises in helping people to stop smoking and in motivating nurses to help smokers quit. She is the Tobacco Policy Advisor for the Royal College of Nursing and runs the RCN's Tobacco Education Project which aims to increase the RCN's participation in UK tobacco control initiatives and raise the level of smoking cessation activity amongst RCN members.

Jennifer runs training courses across the UK and Europe teaching healthcare professionals effective ways to help people stop smoking. She has worked on WHO and EU funded initiatives including scoping the role of nursing in tobacco control and smoking cessation globally. She is a board member of the European Nurses and Midwives Tobacco Control group and founding member of the Global Network of Tobacco Control Nurses.

Any suggestions that you have as to ways in which we can tap into Jennifer's expertise whilst she is here are welcome.

CAUTION URGED OVER IBOGAINE TREATMENT

The New Zealand Drug Foundation is deeply concerned at recent efforts by a group known as ibogaine.org.nz to promote ibogaine as an alternative treatment of drug addiction in New

Zealand. Drug Foundation Director, Ross Bell, said "ibogaine has not been evaluated there have been no controlled trials on this substance."

<http://www.nzdf.org.nz/media/caution-urged-over-ibogaine-drug-treatment>

OFFERS OF ASSISTANCE

Nurses from across the country ask how they can assist NSFANZ. We are grateful for these contacts. At the moment we can best be assisted by,

1. Raising the number of nurses who have completed the 40 minute ABC e-learning programme. This was launched in March 2009 and has been completed by 5,000 healthcare workers.
2. Helping out with any requests that are made in this newsletter such as the request about Jennifer Percival's visit

SELECT COMMITTEE SUBMISSION



Gil Stokes (above), our Research Fellow, attended a seminar to help people coordinate submissions to the Maori Affairs Select Committee Inquiry into the tobacco industry. This was organised by the Smokefree Coalition and hosted by Te Hotu Manawa Maori. The seminar included excellent presentations on the key approaches to writing submissions, what to include, how to include it and how to back it up with evidence. NSFANZ will be making a submission to the Inquiry. Information on how you can do this can be found on http://www.parliament.nz/en-NZ/AboutParl/GetInvolved/Submission/a/9/8/00CLOOC_HvYrSaySubmission1-How-to-make-a-submission.htm .

