Beyond Milestones for Allied Health Research Project - Call for participants

Allied health professionals employed by NSW Health are invited to take part in a research project which is called Beyond Milestones for Allied Health. The study is open to dietitians, occupational therapist, physiotherapists, psychologists, social workers and speech pathologists who work with children and/or adults.

Beyond Milestones is a free, online, video-based resource developed utilising the skills of an expert developmental paediatrician, as well as other medical professionals from Sydney Children’s Hospitals Network (Randwick) and University of NSW. The aim of this teaching resource is to instruct learners in a systematic approach to critical and quality observation of normal childhood development.

The aims of the research project are to assess the effectiveness of the Beyond Milestones e-learning resource and will not focus on the skills and knowledge of individual participants. Based on the outcomes of the study, recommendations will be made regarding the effectiveness, potential utilisation and modification of the Beyond Milestones resource for allied health education.

The research project has obtained ethics approval from the Sydney Children’s Hospitals Network HREC and site specific authorisation to be conducted in most NSW Health Local Health Districts/Specialty Networks.

The call for participants will close on the 18th November 2016. For further details regarding the Beyond Milestones research project please contact any of the Children’s Healthcare Network Allied Health Educators (details on page 7).

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Working in the genomic era: Exploring the educational needs of allied health professionals, nurses & midwives in NSW

Are you an allied health professional, nurse or midwife working in NSW?

The Centre for Genetics Education is undertaking the first Australian study into the perceived genetic and genomic educational needs for allied health professionals, nurses and midwives. The research team would like to hear from health professionals from a range of backgrounds and levels of experience.

Please contact Romy Kerr at the Centre for Genetics Education via email romy.kerr@health.nsw.gov.au or phone 9465 9591.
Speech Pathology Foundations for Paediatric Feeding

Speech Pathology Foundations for Paediatric Feeding was held on 20th & 21st October, 2016. The two day workshop was run by the NSW Speech Pathology Advisors Network, Paediatric Feeding Education Group with support from the Children’s Healthcare Network Allied Health Educators. As the title suggested, the workshop focused on providing foundational knowledge with practical support regarding the assessment and management of children with feeding difficulties.

The NSW Speech Pathology Advisors Network, Paediatric Feeding Education Working Group was established in 2013. The role of the working group is to establish coordinated education and clinical support for speech pathologists working in paediatric feeding across NSW Health. The working group membership includes senior speech pathologists in paediatric feeding from the three tertiary children’s hospitals as well as identified metro and regional facilities. The group is supported by the Children’s Healthcare Network Allied Health Educators.


Participants were taken through the process of conducting a comprehensive feeding assessment and used case studies to demonstrate practical management strategies for common feeding issues. Challenging clinical cases submitted by participants were also reviewed and discussed during the workshop. An interactive equipment display facilitated a great deal of discussion.

The workshop was attended by 90 Speech Pathologists from NSW Health, ADHC and non-government organisations from NSW as well as Victoria. A small group of final year Speech Pathology students were also in attendance.

The feedback following the workshop was overwhelmingly positive, with participants reporting that it was a valuable learning opportunity that would support their current work. Some examples of the feedback provided:

“All of it was amazing - from OMA, to observation in assessment, to the questions and then setting goals. It's all much clearer”

“A more structured, supportive framework to help methodically apply knowledge we have in a way that is easier to record and see improvement”

The Allied Health Educators would like to thank the members of the NSW Speech Pathology Advisors Network, Paediatric Feeding Education Working Group for their work in coordinating and running the workshop. Thanks also to Rachel Lindeback, Dietitian, Sydney Children’s Hospital for her excellent presentation on the role of Dietetics in paediatric feeding.

NSW Speech Pathology Advisors Network, Paediatric Feeding Education Working Group (L-R): Emily Davis, Jane Osseedyer, Melissa Parkin, Jennifer Hughes, Brodie Hughes, Katelyn Vanos, Jenny Nicol.
Absent: Carmel Blayten, Gloria Tzannes, Jane Pettigrew, Rachael Lucas.
International Dysphagia Diet Standardisation Initiative Framework

The byline of the International Dysphagia Diet Standardisation Initiative (IDDSI) is ‘Standardising dysphagia diet terminology to improve safety’. ‘Is the current method of feeding safe?’ is the first of 5 questions in the assessment framework detailed in *Feeding difficulties in children. A guide for allied health professionals* (NSW Health, 2016). Transition through textures is part of normal feeding development as well as a management strategy to influence the safety, efficiency and effectiveness of a child’s feeding skills. The research literature recognized the need for “national standardization of terminology and definitions…as a means to improve patient safety and inter-professional communication” (Cichero et al., 2013).

In 2015 the International Dysphagia Diet Standardisation Committee officially launched the dysphagia diet framework. The final dysphagia diet framework consists of a continuum of 8 levels (0–7), where drinks are measured from Levels 0 – 4, while foods are measured from Levels 3 – 7. Levels are identified by numbers, text labels and colour codes. A review of existing standards, available evidence and collaborative efforts from stakeholder groups resulted in a framework that is considered culturally sensitive, measurable and applicable to individuals of all age groups in all care settings (International Dysphagia Diet Standardisation Initiative, 2016).

Key features of the framework comprise more descriptions and testing methods for levels of drink thickness and food textures. The complete IDDSI Framework includes:

- Framework
- Evidence statement
- Descriptors – Food and Drink
- Testing methods – Food and Drink
- Frequently asked questions

The Food Descriptor and Testing Methods document accompanies the IDDSI framework. This document, along with the Drink Descriptor and Testing Methods document provides detailed information to better understand and use the IDDSI framework. The Food Descriptor and Testing Methods document outlines descriptors of the 5 levels of food (Levels 3–7) and transitional foods, found in the IDDSI framework. Descriptors are supported by simple measurement methods that can be used by people with dysphagia or by caregivers, clinicians, food service professionals or industry to confirm the level a food fits into.
International Dysphagia Diet Standardisation Initiative Framework continued

The evidence supporting the decision making about the different food levels is also outlined in the document with acknowledgement of an urgent need for further research around food textures and oral processing in relation to dysphagia.

For further details regarding the IDDSI Framework go to: http://iddsi.org/.


New Look Kids and Families Website

Allied Health Telehealth Virtual Education

2016 Allied Health Telehealth Virtual Education sessions have been presented via a range of different modalities including videoconferencing, WebEx web conferencing and the virtual meeting room technology.

The Allied Health Educators are currently reviewing Allied Health Telehealth Virtual Education and further information will be provided as soon as the review and recommendations have been completed.

If you have any ideas regarding potential topics for education in 2017 please contact one of the Allied Health Educators (contact details on page 7).

SARRAH Position Statement
Allied Health Professions & Rural Generalism

Services for Australian Rural and Remote Allied Health (SARRAH) has prepared a position statement on Allied Health Professions and Rural Generalism. The statement sets out the concept, scope, benefits and training pathways of rural generalism in Allied Health professions. To read the position statement please visit http://sarrah.org.au/resources/publications.

Changes to the Family and Community Services Helpline

All Health employees are mandatory reporters and required by law to report to Family and Community Services (FACS) if they suspect that a child or young person is at risk of significant harm.

Family and Community Services are making changes to the Child Protection Helpline Numbers and the Mandatory Reporter Guide (MRG).

From 13th November 2016 the number currently used by mandatory reporters 133 627 will be diverted to the current ‘public’ Child Protection Helpline telephone number 132 111.

Until the 1st January 2017, when a Health worker rings the old number they will be re-directed to the main 132 111 number. However on 1st January 2017 the old number will be disconnected, with no divert or message in place.

The MRG has also been updated and will look different to the previous edition. The content is however largely the same. The location of the MRG has also changed and it is now located on the new Kids and Families home page at http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/kidsfamilies/pages/default.aspx.
Statewide Telehealth Education Opportunities

Available to allied health professionals who provide services through NSW Health

Children’s Healthcare Network Allied Health Telehealth Virtual Education

The Allied Health Telehealth Virtual Education sessions are held on selected Tuesdays from 1:00 - 2:00pm. Sessions will be presented via either videoconference or web conferencing (WebEx). Upcoming sessions:

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE CUT-OFF TO REGISTER FOR ANY SESSION IS 12 NOON ON THE WEDNESDAY PRIOR TO THAT SESSION.

15/11/2016 Exploring mealtime challenges and feeding practices for young children with Type 1 Diabetes
   Videoconference Session - Virtual Meeting Room
   Kristine Lobley
   Senior Diabetes Dietitian
   Children’s Hospital at Westmead

Please note that this is the last session for 2016. This program is currently being reviewed. To view the 2016 sessions as well as see details regarding the registration process please visit the Allied to Kids website http://www.nchn.org.au/a2k/index.html. Instructions for viewing recorded sessions online are also available on the website. Alternatively, contact one of the Allied Health Educators (details on page 7).

Sydney Children’s Hospital Medical Grand Rounds

The SCH Medical Grand Rounds Education Program is held each Wednesday from 1:00 - 2:00pm. Upcoming sessions:

09/11/2016 Navigating the Maze - Integrated Care
   Dr Susan Woolfenden, Dr Lisa Altman & Dr Christie Breen

16/11/2016 2016 Independent Learning Project Awards Finalists
   UNSW Award Recipients

23/11/2016 Genetics Update
   TBA

30/11/2016 Through the Trauma Lens - The Hidden Brain Injury
   Kate Plaza and Kathryn Asher (OT) & Dr Paul Hotton

To connect via WebEx go to:
https://sesihsmeetings.webex.com/sesihsmeetings/j.php?MTID=m14401bcc57304d7b65008a8a46490ce

John Hunter Children’s Hospital Paediatric Grand Rounds

The JHCH Paediatric Grand Rounds Education Program is held each Tuesday from 1:00 - 2:00pm. Upcoming session topics include (more specific details are released one week prior to the session):

08/11/2016 Community
   Maree Guizzo

15/07/2016 General
   Michael Lonergan

22/07/2016 General
   Stephen Knipe

29/07/2016 Pain Team
   Susie Lord

For instructions on how to view these sessions online or to access previous sessions, please email Sonia.Hughes@hnehealth.nsw.gov.au.
Submissions for Future Editions of Allied to Kids

Let us know about your workshops, new programs, events, research or positions vacant. Clinical articles need to be evidence based with a relevant (albeit short) reference list. Submissions can be sent to any of the Allied Health Educators (email details are listed above) and need to be received no later than the 25th of each month to ensure inclusion in the following month’s edition. Remember, Allied to Kids is a newsletter for allied health professionals by allied health professionals.

Please note the inclusion of event/resource details in this newsletter does not constitute endorsement by the NSW Children’s Healthcare Network. Individuals are responsible for determining the credentials of events/resources in line with their own professional standards.

Save the Date

Paediatric Focused Medication Safety Intensive

9-10 March 2017 - Sydney

This is a fantastic opportunity for anyone with responsibility for medication safety in paediatrics and/or adult healthcare to attend an international training programme. Faculty of the Institute for Safe Medication practices have designed a programme to support practitioners caring for paediatric and neonatal patients to maximise their effectiveness in meeting today’s medication safety challenges.

For further information or to express interest, visit the Children’s Healthcare Australasia website at [https://children.wcha.asn.au/ismp_medsafety](https://children.wcha.asn.au/ismp_medsafety).

Paediatric Update Day

10 March 2017 - The Children’s Hospital at Westmead

The Department of Nutrition & Dietetics at the Children’s Hospital at Westmead will be hosting a Paediatric Update Day focusing on Nutrition & Disability on the 10th of March 2017. This workshop is aimed mostly at dietitians, but may be relevant to other allied health and nursing staff. Topics will include tube feeding, blenderised feeds, safe swallow, NDIS issues and case studies.

Program and registration details will be released late 2016.

Rural Innovations Changing Healthcare (RICH) Forum 2017

Connecting the Disconnect!

31 March 2017

This statewide Forum is ‘virtual’ in design and will link 18 satellite hubs via a blend of videoconferencing, live webstreaming and social media for a day to showcase innovative rural models of care which have potential for broader implementation, to share lessons learned, and increase collaboration across rural health sectors. This is a conference without travel and registration is free. Further information will be made available in the coming months.
ECAV training in Western NSW
The Western NSW LHD Kids & Families Strategies Integrated Violence Prevention Team is hosting a range of workshops provided by the Education Centre Against Violence (ECAV) throughout 2016. It was identified as highly important that access to high quality, specialist, training be available to our LHD staff locally; negating the need for travel to a major city for the opportunity. The range of training opportunities offer clinicians skill and theoretical development and enhanced practice improvement within a trauma informed framework.
For further information or to register for a course visit http://www.ecav.health.nsw.gov.au/ or email Stacy Whiley at stacy.whiley@health.nsw.gov.au.

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<th>Date</th>
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<td>10 November 2016</td>
<td>Orange</td>
<td>Overview of dialectical behavior therapy (DBT) in responding to people with complex trauma</td>
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<tr>
<td>15-17 November 2016</td>
<td>Orange</td>
<td>Responding to people with a disability who have been sexually assaulted</td>
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<td>22-23 November 2016</td>
<td>Orange</td>
<td>Domestic violence and child protection for maternity &amp; child &amp; family health nurses</td>
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14th NSW Brain Injury Rehabilitation Program (BIRP) Forum
Reaching new heights - An exciting future in Brain Injury Rehabilitation
10 & 11 November 2016 - Ryde Eastwood Leagues Club
Up-to-date concepts and evidence-based research about brain injury rehabilitation.
The 2016 BIRP Forum will combine keynote speakers, concurrent sessions, poster presentations and a clinical hypothetical to showcase and update concepts and evidence-based research about brain injury rehabilitation.
For further information please contact Nicole at 9809 9098 or email at BIRS@royalrehab.com.au or visit https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/14th-nsw-brain-injury-rehabilitation-program-forum-and-workshops-tickets-27188003049?aff=efbevent.

Hunter New England LHD Psychology Conference
Complexity and Diversity: Integrating Science, Culture and Individuality into Psychological Best Practice
11 November 2016 - University of Newcastle
The annual Hunter New England Local Health District Psychology Conference will be held on 11 November 2016. This year’s theme explores the complexity and diversity encountered by psychologists in their work, and the integration of knowledge from a range of areas in formulating effective assessments and interventions.
The range of factors relevant to each client is broad and includes: personal history; social, cultural and spiritual aspects; genetic and biological factors; and personality and psychological tendencies. Ongoing advances in knowledge and understanding—from emotional and cognitive aspects to neuroscience and social understanding—are leading towards greater integration and unified models of care.
The keynote speaker will be Manager of the Blue Knot Foundation National Helpline, Merle Conyer speaking on: ‘Decolonising the Therapeutic Frame’.
Conferences/Workshops/Webinars continued

A Palliative Approach - Bear Cottage Children’s Hospice
21 November 2016 - Lorimer Dods Theatre, The Children’s Hospital at Westmead

PEPA aims to improve health professionals’ knowledge, skills and confidence in the palliative approach to care for people with a life-limiting illness.

The workshops on offer will be interactive and provide ample time for discussion through case presentations and examples. Topics covered will include:

- Role of Social Work at Bear Cottage & Footprints in the Sand
- Allied Health
- Referrals/Eligibility
- Common Conditions/Symptoms
- Case Studies
- Bear Cottage History

The workshops are targeted at people working in health across all settings with limited/moderate palliative care experience. Please note that places are limited and registration is essential.

COST: Free with morning tea, lunch, and afternoon tea provided
TIMES: 8.40am - 4.00pm (8.40am registration for a 9.00am start)

Register and print out your ticket online at http://profile.eventarc.com/profile/PEPANSW or via the PEPA NSW webpage at http://www.slhd.nsw.gov.au/services/pepa/
Further information can be obtained by emailing PEPANSW@sswahs.nsw.gov.au.

Travelling with Adolescents Along the Health Highway

Adolescent Conference for Health Professionals Working with Young People
25 November 2016 - Lorimer Dods Lecture Theatre, The Children’s Hospital at Westmead

The Adolescent Conference is designed for all health professionals working with adolescents and young people. The full day program has been designed to cover a wide range of topics relevant to the health and well-being of adolescents and young people. Lunch, morning tea and afternoon tea will be provided.

COST: $200 external/$150 internal (Early bird extended to 15 November 2016)
TIMES: 8.30am - 4.30pm

Please RSVP by 18 November 2016 (or when full capacity has been reached).
For program enquiries please contact Jane Gauci on 9845 2446 or via email at Jane.Gauci@health.nsw.gov.au.
A Palliative Approach - Caring for children with a life-limiting illness

29 November 2016 - Cardiff RSL, Newcastle

PEPA aims to improve health professionals’ knowledge, skills and confidence in the palliative approach to care for people with a life-limiting illness.

The workshops on offer will be interactive and provide ample time for discussion through case presentations and examples. Topics covered will include:

- What is paediatric palliative care
- John Hunter Children’s Hospital Paediatric Palliative Care Service - Who are we and what can we offer?
- Disease trajectories and symptoms management
- Psychosocial care for children and their families
- The role of Allied Health in paediatric palliative care
- Interactive case presentations
- Self care for staff

The workshops are targeted at people working in health across all settings with limited/moderate palliative care experience. Please note that places are limited and registration is essential.

COST: Free with morning tea, lunch, and afternoon tea provided

TIMES: 8.30am - 3.45pm (8.30am registration for a 8.45am start)

Register and print out your ticket online at http://profile.eventarc.com/profile/PEPANSW or via the PEPA NSW webpage at http://www.slhd.nsw.gov.au/services/pepa/

Further information can be obtained by emailing PEPANSW@sswahs.nsw.gov.au.

Working Together to Achieve “Breast is Best”

16 & 17 February 2017 - John Lowenthal Lecture Theatre, Westmead Hospital, Westmead

This two-day evidence-based lecture series is targeted towards speech pathologists, lactation specialists, other allied health, nursing and medical professionals working with neonates and infants with feeding difficulties. This seminar aims to improve feeding outcomes for infants and mothers through a collaborative team approach in an advanced clinical practice context. Topics covered will include:

- Evidenced-base for lactation support: Sucking, physiology and management
- Developmental care, sensory integration and breastfeeding
- Assessing the breastfeeding dyad
- Reflux, GORD and breastfeeding
- Anatomical and physiological challenges to feeding, including torticollis and cleft
- Helping infants suck correctly: Oral motor facilitation and supportive techniques
- Tongue-tie and feeding
- Introduction to breastfeeding tool: A clinical reasoning approach

COST: Full Registration $595, Early Bird $540 (close 20th December 2016)

For further information regarding this lecture series please email Noella.Phillips@health.nsw.gov.au or Jane.Pettigrew@health.nsw.gov.au or call 9845 2076
### Conferences/Workshops/Webinars continued

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<th>Venue/Details</th>
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<tr>
<td>Voice &amp; VPI Workshops for Speech Pathologists - Royal Children’s Hospital</td>
<td>25 &amp; 26 November 2016</td>
<td>Melbourne, VIC</td>
<td>Enquiries to <a href="mailto:speech.path@rch.org.au">speech.path@rch.org.au</a></td>
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<th>Enquiries/Notes</th>
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<td>Behavioural issues across the movement spectrum: From sitting to lifting to ‘HITting’!</td>
<td>30 November 2016</td>
<td>Newcastle, NSW</td>
<td>Enquiries to <a href="mailto:wayne.durand@newcastle.edu.au">wayne.durand@newcastle.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Working together to achieve “Breast is Best”</td>
<td>16 - 17 February 2017</td>
<td>Sydney, NSW</td>
<td>Enquiries to <a href="mailto:Noella.Phillips@health.nsw.gov.au">Noella.Phillips@health.nsw.gov.au</a> or <a href="mailto:Jane.Pettigrew@health.nsw.gov.au">Jane.Pettigrew@health.nsw.gov.au</a></td>
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