# Poster

## Primary Clinical Care Manual

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| **Clinical Practice Guideline** | Primary Clinical Care Manual (PCCM), (1998, 2001, 2003 & 2005) (PCCM)<br>Queensland Health and Royal Flying Doctor Service of Australia (RFDS) (Queensland Section)<br>The PCCM is available on the web or can be ordered by contacting the North Queensland Workforce Unit Ph. 40 508 900 or email nq_workforce_unit@health.qld.gov.au |
| **Stakeholders** | Queensland Health staff (doctors, registered nurses, Indigenous health workers, pharmacists, dentists etc), Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS) staff (registered nurses, doctors and allied health), Queensland Nursing Council, support from Rural Doctors Association of Queensland (RDAQ), Australian College of Midwives Incorporated (ACMI). |
| **Evidence-practice gap** | Rural and remote health facilities were utilizing poor standing orders to treat and manage clinical presentations. These standing orders were not evidence-based. Now in Queensland all rural and remote health facilities utilise the evidence-based clinical practice guidelines in the Primary Clinical Care Manual (PCCM). |
| **Implementation strategies** | The health management protocols in the PCCM comply with the Health (Drugs and Poisons) Regulation 1996 and Queensland Nursing Council Scope of Practice for Registered Nurses. To ensure Registered Nurses have the skills and knowledge for this advanced role a course was developed and accredited by the Queensland Nursing Council. A similar course was developed for Indigenous Health Workers in isolated practice areas to ensure skills and knowledge was at the advanced level. The PCCM is a core course document and guide to practice. |
| **Data** | Main source was from clinicians and specialists working in the field, Cochrane database, Therapeutic Guidelines, clinical pharmacists, pathologists, microbiologists. |
| **Results** | A widely accepted guide to clinical practice which complies with Queensland's Health (Drugs and Poisons) Regulation 1996 and the Queensland Nursing Council requirements |
| **Barriers** | Initially there was resistance to change of practice from ad hoc standing orders to evidenced based guidelines met with some resistance from doctors and RNs. This has changed significantly since the first edition and the PCCM is now widely accepted as the core practice document in rural and remote areas in Queensland. Other states have expressed an interest in the model. |
| **Enablers** | Support of Queensland Health and the Health (Drugs and Poisons) Regulation 1996, Queensland Health Drug Therapy Protocol Committee (doctors, RNs, pharmacists etc) Queensland Nursing Council, RFDS, RDAQ, nurses, doctors and Indigenous health workers working in rural and remote areas |
| **Resources** | Initially there was no funding, much of the work being done voluntarily out of work hours by Queensland Health and RFDS staff. Queensland Health funding assisted the printing of the 1998 edition. Funding has been successfully sought each 2 years since. |
| **Key message** | Supported by good educational preparation, many onsite workshops, employers, professional groups and legislation. The PCCM has sent minimum standards of practice for health professionals working in rural and remote areas. The PCCM provides evidence-based drug management but also provides evidence-based guidelines for assessment and follow up.<br>Guidelines available as hard copy A4 and A5 (personal copy), on CD, Personal Digital Assistant (PDA) and internet |
| * **Presenter Bio** | Sue Crocker, Nurse Educator North Queensland Workforce Unit co – editor 2005 PCCM<br>Lyn Overton, Nurse Educator North Queensland Workforce Unit involved in each of the four editions of the PCCM |