

# Clinical Nursing *and the* LAW

**Study Day**  
**Thursday, 8th May 2008**

## Aims and Objectives

The aim of this study day is to offer clinical nurses an opportunity to think about their legal accountability.

At the completion of this study day the participants should be able to:

- Clearly state what is meant by 'nursing neglect' and give an example.
- Identify ethical and legal aspects of their clinical practice.
- Review their current medication administration practice to ensure they comply with the law.
- Clearly state who should be resuscitated and why.
- Explain the professional obligations of nurses in regard to documentation.
- Appreciate the central role that an understanding of the law has on high quality care.

## Organised by Ausmed Conferences

Attendance at one of these study days earns you

## 5.25 CNE Points

as part of the Royal College of Nursing, Australia Lifelong Learning Program. This educational event has been endorsed by APEC No. 04083036 as authorised by Royal College of Nursing, Australia according to approved criteria.

The College recommends that nurses should aim to achieve 30 CNE points per year.



## Your presenter is:

### **Dr Kim Forrester RN, LLB**

*Kim is a registered nurse and barrister-at-law currently in practice in Brisbane. She has extensive clinical experience in intensive and coronary care. She has a Law Degree from the University of New South Wales and a Master of Laws (Advanced) from the University of Queensland. Kim was a full-time academic working as the Senior Lecturer in Medical Law, Ethics and Professional Practice in the Medical School at Griffith University until her admission as a Barrister-at-Law in the Supreme Court of New South Wales and Queensland. Kim was recently appointed to the Queensland Health Quality and Complaints Commission*

**Venue: The Pavilion, Queensland Cricket Headquarters, Allan Border Field, 1 Bogan Street, Breakfast Creek, Qld.**

An electronic copy of this program can be found on-line at:  
**[www.ausmed.com.au](http://www.ausmed.com.au)**



8.30 **Registration and Refreshments on Arrival**

9.00 **Life Long Learning Program: Royal College of Nursing, Australia**

9.10 **Duty of Care and Work Pressures**

- \* What constitutes the nurse's duty of care and what does the law take into consideration when examining a case of nursing neglect?
- \* Is defensive practice ethically and legally defensible?
- \* When might work pressures be recognised as a viable defence?
- \* What are the duty of care dangers when working with carers who are untrained?

9.50 **Ignorance, Legal Risk and Moral Concerns**

A caution for nurses to avoid exposing themselves, or those in their care, to ethico-legal decision-making based on inadequate knowledge of the law or insensitivity about adverse consequences.

- \* Should every health facility have an ethics committee?

10.30 **Morning Tea and Coffee**

11.00 **Medications, Clinical Nurses and the Law**

Knowledge of the legislation which governs medication management is essential for the delivery of appropriate and safe care to patients.

- \* Use of case examples to explore legal issues arising from the prescription, calculation, storage and the administration of drugs.

12.00 **Not for Resuscitation Orders**

- \* What are key considerations when there is written evidence that a terminally ill patient does not wish to be resuscitated?
- \* Legally, can this stipulation be overridden and under what circumstances?

Comments on relevant records.



1.00 **Lunch and Networking**

2.00 **Minimising Risk in Nursing Documentation**

- \* The fundamental art of documentation and record keeping – why is this a concern of the QNC?
- \* How to meet professional obligation, accountability and legal requirements when communicating and recording your nursing practice.
- \* Guiding principles for documentation.

3.00 **Afternoon Tea and Coffee**

3.30 **Supervision, Delegation and Scope of Practice Issues**

- \* What is clinical supervision and delegation?
- \* Scope of Practice decision making, accountability and responsibility.
- \* Ensuring that you understand your legal limitations.

4.15 **Close of Program and Evaluations**

# To Register

**Venue —The Pavilion,**  
Queensland Cricket Headquarters,  
Allan Border Field, 1 Bogan Street,  
Breakfast Creek, Qld.

**Accommodation**

Brisbane Riverview Hotel  
Cnr Kingsford Smith Drv & Hunt St  
HAMILTON QLD 4007  
Tel: 07 3262 0847 Fax: 07 3262 0841

**Refunds and Cancellation:**

A standard handling charge of 10% is deducted from the registration fee upon written notification of cancellation. We regret no refund can be offered if notification occurs less than **two weeks** prior to the event.

To Register:

Fastest registration occurs online.

- **Online:** [www.ausmed.com.au](http://www.ausmed.com.au)
- **Post :** Ausmed Conferences,  
PO Box 4086,  
Melbourne University,  
Parkville, Vic 3052.
- **Fax :** (03) 9375 7299
- **Tel:** (03) 9375 7311
- **Email:** [ausmed@ausmed.com.au](mailto:ausmed@ausmed.com.au)

To obtain a Tax Invoice prior to paying simply register online and click the invoice option. Registration includes lunch, refreshments and education notes.

Please register \_\_\_ person(s) for **\$220 plus GST = \$242**

Enclosed is a cheque or money order. Credit card (Mastercard or Visa). **Please add \$5 if paying by credit card to pay for bank costs.** My credit card number is:

.....  
Please print name on card

.....  
Expires /

Signature .....

Registration for **Clinical Nurses and the Law** study day to be held on Thursday, 8th May 2008 in Brisbane.

Name: .....Position: .....

Workplace: .....

Address: .....Postcode.....

Telephone ..... Fax: .....

Email: .....@.....

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