ASRIs: Positive Experiences

• Mr Paul Bennett - Clinical Change

• A/Prof Charmaine Power – Health and Society

• Ms Didy Button – Clinical Change

• Dr Martin Caon – Flinders Medical Devices and Technologies (FMDAT)
Clinical Change ASRI

- Evidence based clinical practice
- Later-life care
- End of life care
- Chronic disease management
Clinical Change ASRI

Key People

• Stacey Masters/Anthea Williams
  – Research Development Officer

• Jan Paterson, Paddy Phillips, Maria Crotty, Karen Parish, Michelle Miller, Malcolm Battersby, David Currow, Di Rowett, Mary Luszcz
Objective To assess the reliability of a nurse-performed nutrition screening tool (NST) for hemodialysis (HD) patients to identify nutritionally at-risk patients.

Design Tool reliability assessment.

Setting and Participants The setting was nine non-hospital private (n = 3) and public (n = 6) HD units in Australia (two rural and seven metropolitan). Participants were 112 HD patients.

Results A total of 112 HD patients (male = 65, female = 47) from 9 non-hospital HD units in Australia (seven metropolitan and two rural) were screened with the NST and the outcome of dietitian referral compared with Standard Dietitians Assessment. The mean age of patients was 57.6 years. Overall, the NST showed a sensitivity of 0.84 (range, 0.71 to 0.94; P < .05) and a specificity of 0.9 (range, 0.82 to 0.98; P < .05). The NST was more sensitive (sensitivity, 0.93 [range, 0.87 to 0.99; P < .05]) and was more specific for men (specificity, 0.92 [range, 0.85 to 0.99; P < .05]). Specificity was very strong in metropolitan patients (specificity, 0.94 [range, 0.87 to 1.01; P < .05]).

Conclusions The tool was more sensitive and specific than the NST previously reported by the same investigators. The tool is particularly specific in that it screens those patients not requiring dietitian intervention. The use of this tool may benefit HD units that do not have on-site or regular dietetic support to prioritize patients needing dietitian intervention.
Nutritional Screening Tool
Further Developments

• Development of Nutritional Tool

• D/W Paddy Philips (Medical), Stacey Masters (ASRI), Michelle Miller (Dietetics)

• State or National RCT of Screening Tool

• Dietetic or Nursing Students - 3rd year, Honours, Masters, PhD
Further Possibilities

- Exercise and Dialysis
Advantages of ASRI Involvement

- Intellectually Stimulating
  - Research Presentations
- Research Resources
- Inter-faculty Collaboration
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Flinders Centre for Clinical Change & Health Care Research

- Membership since June 2005
- May 2006 invited to meet with Professor Peter Frith Head of Respiratory Medicine at FMC & RGH regarding Qualitative research possibilities in current research project.
University Industry Collaborative Research Grant (UICRG)

- Predictors of Hospital admission in patients with COPD and cost Utility of Southern Chronic Disease Community Program (CDCP).
- Undertaking 12 interviews.
- Currently seeking FCREC approval of ethics application.
ASRI membership

• Research opportunities with other disciplines such as:
  – Academic detailing surrounding pain management in acute care.
  – Carers role in COPD management.