

NEN Executive Update February 2010

Hi everyone,

2010 is upon us and the NEN executive has picked up where we left off in 2009. Our strategic priorities remain unchanged and we will begin some collaborative projects to make a difference to the future of nephrology education in Australia and New Zealand, particularly given the move to national registration in Australia. As we understand it, the move to national registration, will require every nurse to be registered in an 'endorsed' professional development program. The details appear to be sketchy at this moment with nothing set in stone. The Royal College of Nursing have advised that endorsed programs may be similar to their 3LP program. With this in mind the NEN Executive, in collaboration with several external education experts, and on behalf of the RSA, will be investigating how best to prepare for this eventuality. Updates will be provided as news comes to hand. In the meantime an overview of happenings on the NEN front:



The NEN in partnership with Sanofi-Aventis will be awarding a \$6000 clinical education scholarship at the RSA ball during the national conference in Cairns, 2010. Further information and application form is available at http://www.nen.org.au/NEN/NEN_Scholarship.html Applications close 30th April, 2010.



The NEN will provide an education workshop on the Wednesday preceding the national conference in Cairns, 2010 to support the needs of neophyte educators and staff considering a career pathway in nursing education. Please go to <http://www.rsa2010.org.au/workshops.php> for more information. The workshop is capped so please register ASAP to ensure your place. If you have any staff that are considering a future in education please encourage them to attend. Amgen have provided some sponsorship for this workshop which has enabled the fee to be partially subsidised.



The first Nephrology Education Resource Development (NERD) program is finished! Last week we received the funding required to develop this into an e-learning program. We expect to launch it to pilot sites for evaluation at the end of March. The topic is on buttonhole cannulation and the e-learning program will be highly interactive and not just a word document cut and paste into an e-learning portal! The paper based package has been evaluated on three levels. Firstly from an international expert on the topic, two national experts and from a purely educational perspective from an educator in a non-renal field. Ethics approval is proving a challenge and we are eager to get this through to evaluate the package. As this will be a pilot for the LEARN project we need it to be

rigorously evaluated from an educational perspective. Please contact peter.sinclair@newcastle.edu.au for further information.



With this package finished we are pleased to see three other programs in development including Intro to HD, Water Quality and Acute Kidney Injury. We are still looking for teams to start other programs and please remember that we will all benefit from these in the long run so it will be great to have you involved. These programs will be offered in both e-learning and paper based format and will all eventually be used as part of LEARN project.



The LEARN (Leading the Education and Advancement of Renal Nursing) project: In January we had our first meeting to pursue this project, particularly in light of upcoming national registration in Australia. At this stage it appears that two separate projects will be run concurrently under the auspice of the LEARN banner. One project will look at a professional development/teaching and learning framework while the other will look at education resource development. The teams have not been finalised nor has funding. We estimate this project will take approximately four years. To date the team includes Ann Bonner, Paul Bennett, Sue Ward, Sandra Campbell, Monica Schoch, Yvonne White and in varying degrees, the NEN executive. Leadership has not been finalised and announcements in that area will be made in the coming months. If you would like to be part of this project or would like to know more please contact me. We really want clinical educators involved in this so we are able to develop a program that is relevant to your needs. Please see Appendix A for an updated version of the proposed framework (adapted from edcan's work)



CNE points: The NEN executive has approached the federal RSA board to become an Authorised Provider of Endorsed Courses (APEC). We have asked for federal funding so that nominated NEN members can undertake APEC accreditation so that we can endorse both RSA and NEN educational programs and events on behalf of the Royal College of Nursing Australia (RCNA). This includes the ability to allocate RCNA Continuing Nurse Education points to our activities. This will be discussed at the RSA federal executive meeting in March.



We are still looking for NEN members in Western Australia and Northern Territory. They are underrepresented in terms of membership and while we recognise membership of the NEN is not mandatory we hope that educators from these areas will be able to have a voice in what the NEN is doing. If you know any educators or CNC's from WA or NT please let them know about us.



The NEN has had two abstracts accepted for poster presentation at the ANNA conference in May. A great opportunity to share with our international colleagues.



2011 NEN Symposium: After the success of the inaugural NEN symposium we are happy to announce that the second NEN symposium will be held in Melbourne on the 17th – 18th February, 2011. More details will be advertised as they come to hand. If you would like to part of the organising team please contact Monica Schoch (conference convenor) at monica.schoch@deakin.edu.au As with the last symposium, content will be relevant to your needs. So please keep your eye out for a session and topic survey posting on the board in the near future. We have taken on board comments from last year on how we can improve the symposium and will be making sure that every attendee will be partly subsidised (dependent on industry support) and that concurrent workshops will be rotated.



A reminder about postings: Please remember to click 'watch this topic' if you want notification of postings, this is a good way to support our colleagues who post questions on the board.

We will provide another update in April. Take care



Peter Sinclair on
behalf of the NEN executive

APPENDIX A

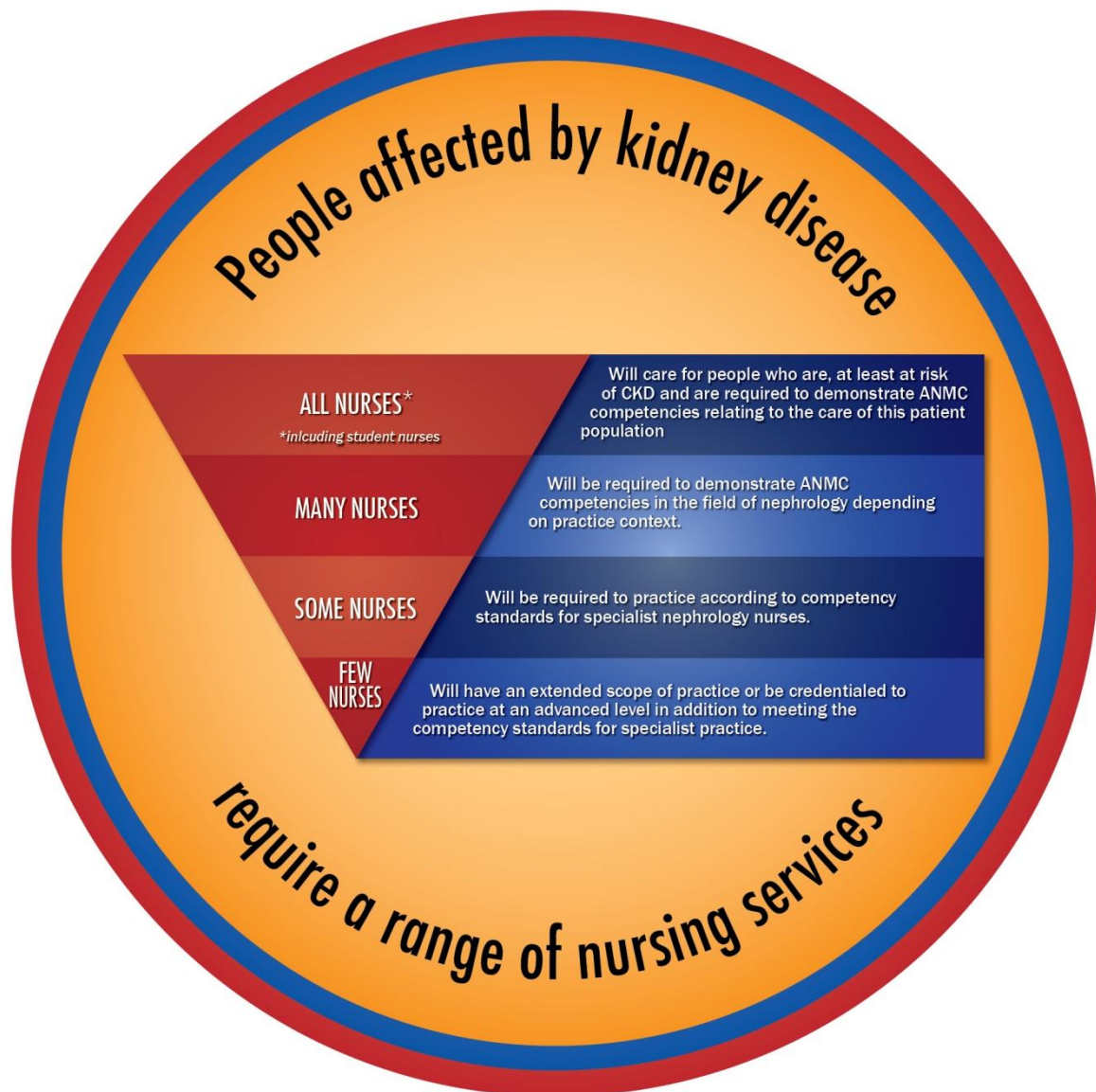


Figure 1: Proposed professional development model for nurses working with people with kidney disease (adapted from professional development model for nursing in cancer control).