

ISSUE
02

Summer Newsletter

Masters Level Learning

Three students commenced the dissertation year of their Masters programme in palliative care. Their research is looking at the following:

- The role of senior hospice nurses in the discussion of DNAR orders with patients and families
- The bereavement needs of family carers of mesothelioma decedents
- The perception of nurses of the role of the Chaplain in secondary palliative care

These are the first students ever in this programme and it feels an exciting achievement for the Masters team.

Kate McClelland, Head of Spiritual & Pastoral Care at Braunstone Health & Social Centre, shares her experience....



My name is Kate McClelland. I am currently working as a Head of Spiritual and Pastoral Care at Braunstone Health and Social Centre. For my dissertation module of the Masters in Palliative care I am undertaking a research project entitled; Spiritual Care at end of life: A nurse's perspective. The conception for the research followed an in depth internal project which focused on spiritual assessments on patients placed on the LCP. I am taking a grounded theory constructivist approach to my research which is in the form of semi-structured interviews. I intend to interview approximately ten nurses who have a special interest in palliative care.

The purpose of the research is to gather information initially in three identifiable areas. Firstly; spirituality, an understanding of what it means in a clinical environment. Secondly; nurses perceptions of chaplaincy provision at end of life. Thirdly; media influences on those perceptions and the impact it may have on service provision. This research has been identified as service evaluation. It is anticipated that the results of the findings will go to improve chaplaincy provision within the Trust and ultimately impact on providing better patient care.

LOROS Welcomes New Director of Education & Training



After over 10 years at LOROS, Sharon De Caestecker said farewell to her team and stepped down from the role of Director of Education and Training in November 2012.

Mandy Motley joined the team as the new Director of Education & Training in January 2013. In this role, she will build on and deliver LOROS' strategy to improve the quality of palliative care through education and training of health and social care professionals. Mandy has a Certificate in Education from Oxford Brookes University and a Masters (with distinction) Degree in Educational Management from Warwick University. She is also a Fellow of the Institute for Learning.

She has at various times been Lead Tutor, Curriculum Director, Professional Development Manager and Human Resources Director at the North Warwickshire and Hinckley College based in Nuneaton. For the last 4 years she has worked for Nord Anglia Education, a private sector education provider, as the Excellence & Improvement Manager with strategic leadership for a national coaching programme and latterly as the National Programme Manager, responsible for a leadership development scheme. On a personal level, she has first-hand experience of the value of effective end of life care.



Above left: Mandy Motley is the newest member of the LOROS Education Team.

Above: Sharon De Caestecker (centre) was bid a fond farewell by members of her team, after over 10 years as Director of Education & Training at LOROS.

Local GP Mentoring Through CPEP



Dr Rishabh Prasad, End of Life Clinical Lead, Leicester City CCG

Hi...I'm a GP at Willbrook Medical Centre, Thurmaston, and also the clinical lead for end of life services for the City of Leicester CCG (Clinical Commissioning Group).

I've been involved with LOROS long before I became a doctor – I was a volunteer, and I have fond memories of summer fetes. After medical school, I was lucky enough to land a training job at the hospice - the 6 month post taught me a tremendous amount. Given the constraints of GP training not all of us get the chance to work in palliative care and sharing that excellent experience which has driven my current role. All GP's want to do the best they can for their patients, but sometimes we don't have all the training or information we need.

To meet this gap, I've been working with CPEP, Macmillan, LOROS and the local CCG. Four excellent local GP's are being trained at CPEP, and will use their expertise to improve End of Life Care through the CCG. Additionally, all City GP's have had the opportunity of some great training with LOROS.

Over the next year or so we hope the training and expertise from CPEP will be translated into better care for patients.

Education Team Celebrate Award Winning Book

Dr Christina Faull, Consultant in Palliative Medicine and Medical Lead for Education and Research and Sharon de Caestecker, former Director of Education and Training, are celebrating the third edition of the *Handbook of Palliative Care* which was published in December by Wiley-Blackwell. The first edition won the prestigious British Medical Association medical book of the year award in 1999.

Dr Faull said, "I hope that the book is easy to read and helps doctors, nurses and even families and patients to be more confident about making life as good as possible in advanced illness."

Sharon de Caestecker said, "Putting into writing our classroom based teaching, about how patients and families want us to communicate with them, was challenging; but I hope that we've produced a book that will support healthcare professionals in providing quality care."

The book provides comprehensive information and guidance, covering a wide range of advanced illnesses including cancer, heart disease and COPD.

In his foreword, Leicestershire GP Dr Mayur Lakhani says "We only get one chance to get it right for people living in the late stages of incurable illness and those that are dying. I believe the *Handbook of Palliative Care* will undoubtedly contribute to achieving this vision by providing evidence based knowledge."



Above: Dr Christina Faull (right) and Sharon De Caestecker celebrate the 3rd edition of the *Handbook of Palliative Care*

CPEP Welcomes Dr. Lynn Furber...

Not wanting to miss out on a good thing I muscled my way into CPEP in the summer of 2012...

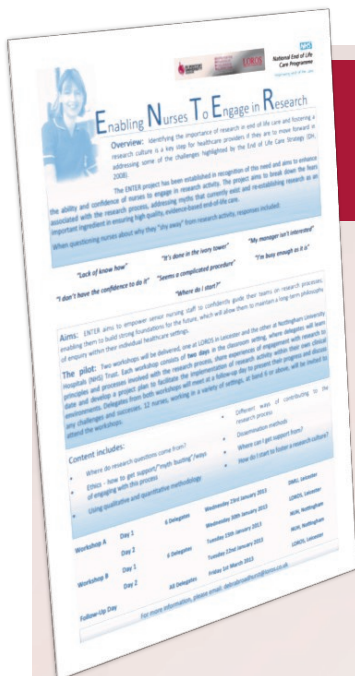
Well, 'muscled' might be too strong as I'm not that forceful but hopefully you get the picture! When I first joined the group I worked full time as a Senior Nurse Researcher in the cancer department at the Leicester Royal Infirmary (LRI). I have been particularly interested in learning how doctors and patients, diagnosed with advanced cancer, communicate with each other and how they experience consultations.

The findings from the research I have been involved in are being used to make improvements in patient care and to help support doctors in terms of developing their communication skills.

Following a more recent development, I now split my time between research at the LRI, teaching at De Montfort University (DMU) and occasional teaching at LOROS. I hope to bring a diverse range of experiences and skills to CPEP and because of my position in the LRI, connect CPEP with the University Hospitals of Leicester.



Dr Lynn Furber
Senior Nurse Researcher



ENTER Project

Enabling Nurses to Engage in Research

Identifying the importance of research in end of life care and fostering a research culture is a key step for healthcare providers if they are to move forward in addressing some of the challenges highlighted by the End of Life Care Strategy (DH, 2008).

The ENTER project has been established in recognition of this need and aims to enhance the ability and confidence of nurses to engage in research activity, breaking down the fears associated with the research process, addressing myths that currently exist and re-establishing research as an important ingredient in ensuring high quality, evidence-based end-of-life care.

Seven senior nurses (band 6 and above) attended a three day workshop which comprised of a mixture of taught sessions on the research process, sharing examples of research practices, introducing the 'human face' of teams such as Research and Development and Ethics

Committees and reviewing currently available resources.

The group of nurses quickly established themselves as a support network for each other and although the project was originally time limited, a Community of Practice is now being explored with support from Macmillan. In addition, a web based resource is being developed that will support nurses to foster a culture of enquiry, develop their own research practices and enable others to engage in research activity.

If you would like more information about the project, please contact Debbie Broadhurst, Advancing Practice Development Team Manager: debrabroadhurst@loros.co.uk

New Macmillan Clinical Academic Research Nurse...

...Welcome Karen Lord

Hi....I have just been appointed as Macmillan Clinical Academic Research Nurse within the Specialist Palliative Care Team at the University Hospitals of Leicester. Actually the team know me quite well since until June 2013, I was a fellow CNS while also working with Professor Paul Symonds researching how British South Asian and British White people cope with cancer. Having completed that project this year I was keen to incorporate research into a clinical role within palliative care. Such roles are as rare as hen's teeth so I have been extremely lucky to have been appointed to this innovative role. Currently, while defining my initial research project focusing on a 'live clinical issue' which can resonate with both patients and family care givers, I have begun working with colleagues involved in CPEP, Macmillan Cancer Care, LOROS and DMU from my position within the acute hospital setting.



Karen Lord
Macmillan Clinical
Research Nurse

Newsletter editor and Co-Chair of CPEP Dr. Christina Faull would welcome any comments and thoughts about CPEP and what you want to see in this newsletter. christinafaull@loros.co.uk



<http://www.dmu.ac.uk/cpep>



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