



Shin Yee Mok  
Executive Assistant  
Level 7, 461 Bourke St,  
Melbourne VIC 3000

Dear Shin Yee,

Please find attached the Australian College of Nursing's (ACN) update report for the upcoming Australian Stroke Coalition meeting.

ACN is passionate about promoting stroke awareness to our members and the broader community, to support prevention initiatives and improve survival.

Do not hesitate to contact Carolyn Stapleton, Policy and Advocacy Manager, if you have any queries. Her email address is [carolyn.stapleton@acn.edu.au](mailto:carolyn.stapleton@acn.edu.au)

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "K Ward". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop over the "W".

Adjunct Professor Kylie Ward  
Chief Executive Officer  
RN, MMgt, Dip App Sci (Nursing), Acute Care Cert, FACN, Wharton Fellow, MAICD

4 October 2017



### **The Australian College of Nursing**

*Describe an activity currently happening in your organisation that is related to stroke care (Acute, rehabilitation or community) or relevant to the broader mission of the ASC.*

The Australian College of Nursing (ACN) continues to have an interest in issues relating to stroke regularly providing updates and information to members directly and indirectly relating to stroke. In this reporting period ACN has made the following notifications:

#### Endorsed

- Clinical Guidelines for Stroke Management 2017 which was submitted to NHMRC in March 2017 for review

#### Promoted

- Australia Biggest Blood Pressure check held from 18 May – 14 June 2017
- eStroke e-learning platform
- informMe website to members

Preparing to promote the Stride4Stroke Campaign this November.

ACN provided feedback when asked to comment on specifically tailored data variables to be used in NSW which have been approved by The AuSDaT Coordinating Committee.

*Describe a specific challenge that you, or your organisation is facing. Ideally this will relate to stroke, or if that is not possible, be relevant to health and care professionals.*

ACN continues to advocate for a minimum requirement of having a registered nurse (RN) on duty at all times in residential aged care facilities to promote safety and well-being for all residents. ACN actively supports the position that consumers with high care needs (including those who have had or are at risk of stroke) require the expertise of an RN to provide frontline leadership in the delivery of nursing care to ensure timely access to effective nursing assessment and comprehensive nursing care, and to the evaluation of that care.

ACN continues to endorse the NACA Position Statement 'Enhancing the quality of life of older people through better support and care' included in the NACA Blueprint which promotes securing access to affordable assistive technologies, aids and equipment.



ACN continues to advocate for the need for rehabilitation and ongoing care for stroke survivors, the need for data collection and quality improvement and access to quality care for all Australians including an ASC focus on equity of access to rehabilitation for all stroke survivors.

*Give an example of something you, or your organisation is trying to change. This might be an organisational improvement, the introduction of a new program or something else. Ideally, it will relate to stroke, but if that is not possible, be relevant to health and care professionals.*

ACN continues to offer a flexible and well supported Community and Primary Health Nursing graduate certificate. This distance education course is accredited by the Tertiary Education Quality Standards Agency and addresses contemporary patient care strategies and professional nursing issues associated with chronic disease management for conditions such as stroke.

In particular, a Chronic and Complex Care subject was re-designed in 2016 to cater for nurses working in community settings, long term care and rehabilitation facilities. The curriculum highlights strategic needs assessment and long term management options that form the basis for achieving better patient health literacy and self-caring skill.

Through this unit of study, nurses examine the impetus for change in conventional health service delivery to realign community care and improve health outcomes for people with chronic diseases including stroke and other neurological disorders. Students explore themes focused on management of clients by critiquing models of care and collaborative case management, as well as bioethical, psychosocial and community issues related to chronic and complex disease management.