MNDcare Latest News - March 2012

Palliative Care Australia and the Neurological Alliance Australia (NAA) have released a new position statement on Palliative Care and Neurological Conditions.

The main focus of adopting a palliative approach to neurological conditions is described as: “maintain dignity and increase hope through the disease process by adequately managing physical, psychological and existential suffering while assisting with decision making processes.”

A new information resource - Aspects of care for the Primary Health Care Team

During the last decade the amount of research on MND care and the quantity of evidence-based information in the field has increased exponentially. MND Australia strives to review existing information and produce an increasing suite of tailored, coordinated resources incorporating evolving best practice information.

Aspects of Care for the Primary Health Care Team is a new publication available in printed form as well as electronically on this website and the MND Australia website. It is a clinical guide for health and medical professionals and is recommended for GPs and the primary health-care team who are supporting people living with MND and their families. To create this new resource the original booklet Motor neurone disease: A problem solving approach - A guide for general practitioners has been revised and updated to coordinate with the MNDcare website and to provide an evidence based approach.

This publication also complements Aspects of Care for staff of residential aged care facilities - an information resource for residential aged care staff to assist them to meet the needs of residents living with MND.

Other recently updated information available on this site include:

- Evidence Based Fact Sheets for people living with MND and their families on managing specific issues and symptoms in MND
- MND - More Facts - gives a brief overview of MND for the general public, family/friends of people with MND - updated version available mid May.

Update on MNDCare Website

Recent statistics on the use of this website have been rewarding. Since its inception in June last year there have been over 7,600 visits to the site from 93 states/countries. The number of regular subscribers to this site is steadily growing.

Update International Symposium and Allied Professionals Forum, Sydney (Nov 29 - Dec 2)
MND Australia would like to take the opportunity of the Symposium being held within this region to organise a special meeting for delegates attending from the Asia Pacific region and others who have valuable relevant experience to offer.

The aim of this interactive session will be to:

- share ideas and opportunities to better support MND clients in the Asia Pacific region
- look at common barriers to improving service
- learn from others who have had useful targeted experience
- investigate the possibility of establishing networks for peer support of service providers within the region

If you are interested in attending this session advance notice would be appreciated. Please contact carolb@mndaust.asn.au

The Call for Abstracts for the Allied Professionals Forum is now available. It is very important for health and social care professionals to help each other by sharing good practice. The aim of this day long Forum is to foster the exchange of information and good practice to facilitate the highest standard of care for people with ALS/MND and their caregivers.

The topics to be covered are likely to be very relevant to your general clinical practice with MND clients and your experience is valuable to your peers. The deadline for abstract submission is May 28, 2011.