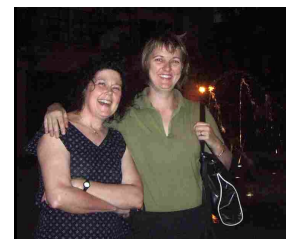


CAHE ETG in Manila

CAHE staff visit the University of Santo Tomas Evidence Translation Group!



Just prior to Easter 2007 Karen Grimmer-Somers and Susan Hillier travelled to Manila, Philippines, to provide support to the University of Santo Tomas Evidence-Translation Group, the first 'ETG' of CAHE. Four members of the group had previously been trained in the JBI systematic review process by Dr Saravana Kumar in May 2006 in Adelaide, and with their assistance, Susan Hillier provided the first two modules of the JBI systematic review training to staff and students at the University during this trip. Three protocols are nearing completion from the original group of trainees, and are almost ready for submission to the JBI review ing process. From the new batch of trainees another 3-4 protocols are anticipated, as well as a Cochrane review. While Susan was conducting the training, Karen spent time with her PhD student Dr Bebet Gonzales-Suarez, who is researching obesity and overweight in metro-Manila children aged 11-12 years. Bebet's preliminary findings suggest that obesity in this group of children is more prevalent than previously thought, with strong socio-economic predictors. Bebet's work will establish new reference standards for other Asian countries. While they were in Manila, Karen and Susan also conducted a workshop for staff and graduate students on publishing, and reviewing publications. This linked in with the imminent release of the second volume of the Philippines Journal of Allied Health Science, a publication of the University of Santo Tomas, and the only peer-reviewed allied health journal in the Philippines.

The Philippines ETG is a shining example of how being linked with a JBI collaborating centre can increase capacity and improve skills. The improved data searching skills held now by most of the allied health staff in the College of Rehabilitation Sciences, University of Santo Tomas, has assisted the staff to gain access to a wider group of library databases in the university than was available to them before, and to set the benchmarks for research methodology for higher degree students across the graduate school. The allied health staff and students now routinely conduct systematic reviews of the relevant literature prior to undertaking any research, and the undergraduate students work in groups to constructively review the literature for training and clinical audit purposes. The ability to understand about good and poor research, and to have access to other academics around the world has increased the profile of allied health research enormously in the Philippines, and has given the staff at UST a sense of accomplishment on a world stage. Within a couple of years, it is envisaged that the Philippines ETG will develop into a JBI collaborating allied health centre in its own right, and thus assist in spreading the word in evidence synthesis and translation for allied health clinicians and researchers in Asia. Any group of allied health researchers / clinicians with a desire to understand and undertake evidence synthesis should contact CAHE to discuss what is entailed in becoming a JBI ETG.

CAHE Allied Health News in Review update - !

CAHE AHNIR Edition 5 investigates the premise that acupuncture can help bring some relief from chemotherapy induced nausea and vomiting (author: Dr Caroline Smith), Reuters Health Information 1 May 2006. For this review, and others visit [CAHE Allied Health News in Review](#) on the CAHE website.



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THE JOANNA BRIGGS INSTITUTE

Last chance to book your place at the CAHE/DOHSA workshop on 18 May 2007 in Eyre Peninsula, SA!

Translating Evidence into Clinical Practice

The Centre for Allied Health Evidence (University of South Australia), in conjunction with the Department of Health South Australia, is conducting a workshop on evidence-based practice (EBP) in Streaky Bay SA on 18 May 2007. Any allied health practitioner of any discipline working in any setting (public or private) is welcome to attend. Sessions will include:

- Historical relevance and growing importance of evidence based practice
- Identifying barriers to uptake and incentives for EBP
- Finding evidence to answer clinical questions
- Formulating and asking the right question
- Evaluation of available the evidence
- Interpreting the evidence into clinical decisions
- Evaluating whether using EBP has been worthwhile.

If you would like to attend this FREE workshop please RSVP to Helen Walker by Tuesday, 15 May 2007 (hrwalker@bigpond.com).



May 2007 Bulletin from Dept of Health (SA) Principal AH Advisor Catherine Turnbull

Change is constant in health care. But how can we influence change positively so that our goals are realised? The change I have worked on since 2003 is how to increase the allied health professions involvement in evidence based practice activities.

Rogers (2006) discusses the fact that with any change process early adopters tend to be only 20% of the workforce and that the next 80% actually require a different approach to participate in change. Gladwell (2002) explained that within complex health organisations leaders need to be “steadily pushing in the certain direction until the conditions for breakthrough are there”. This is the “tipping point” which coupled with the right attractors ensure uptake of change. Professor Richard Grol, Director, Centre for Quality of Care Research, The Netherlands, who was the National Institute of Clinical Studies (NICS) Visiting Expert recently listed the crucial points for change:

- good preparation
- market proposal for change
- clear goals for change
- local support
- valid data for a sense of urgency
- receptive environment
- assure necessary support
- invest in young professions
- outreach facilitator approach
- power of peers
- frameworks for types of organisational cultures
- COURAGE TO CHANGE THEIR MINDS

(Grol 2007 [online] URL: www.nicsl.com.au)

So I'd like to challenge you all to have a discussion in your workplace about how to increase your participation in evidence based activities for the rest of 2007. Even by defining just one activity that is achievable you will be assisting the CAHE reach one of its change goals – “to increase the uptake and participation of the allied health workforce in evidence based activities”. Good luck!

To receive CAHE updates, please register online at www.unisa.edu.au/cahe

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