



MEDIA RELEASE

1 May 2012

Collaboration the Key for Palliative Care

Key players in nursing, medicine and palliative care came together at Bethesda Hospital for the 1 May 2012 evening launch event of the project entitled 'Building Capacity in Palliative Care Clinical Training', by the Chair of Health Workforce Australia, the Hon Mr Jim McGinty.

Drivers of the Health Workforce Australia funded project were the School of Population Health in the Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry, and Health Sciences at The University of Western Australia (UWA); in collaboration with the School of Nursing and Midwifery at The University of Notre Dame Australia, and Bethesda Hospital.

The collaboration project provides nursing and medical students with the opportunity to learn about the provision of palliative care, within inpatient and community settings. Bethesda Hospital has a 23 bed in-patient Palliative Care Unit, as well as services the community through their Palliative Ambulatory Service (North).

The clinically placed students work together in a palliative care environment, whilst being supported by Bethesda Hospital staff, a Practitioner Scholar (Nursing), and a Palliative Care Physician.

A 'Learning Hub' has been created adjacent to the Bethesda Hospital Palliative Care Unit, providing students and staff a dedicated learning and debriefing environment.

CEO of Bethesda Hospital, Ms Yasmin Naglazas, who was MC of the launch event, noted that it was a perfect fit for the project collaborators to use the existing palliative care resources at Bethesda Hospital. 'Working together with such dedicated educators as UWA and The University of Notre Dame Australia will only enhance the service delivery of palliative care to the WA community'.

Other speakers of the evening included Dr Neale Fong -Chairman of Bethesda; Winthrop Professor Ian Puddey – Dean of Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences UWA, and Professor Selma Allix – Dean of School of Nursing and Midwifery at The University of Notre Dame Australia.

Bethesda Hospital is an independent 88-bed award-winning hospital in Claremont, which has been providing care and service to the Western Australian community for nearly 70 years.

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