



Registration now open!

Royal College of Nursing, Australia's 2009 Primary Health Care Conference

Primary Health Care Collaboration, integration and reform—a nursing response

Royal College of Nursing, Australia's (RCNA) 2009 Primary Health Care Conference will be held at the Hilton, Adelaide from 8-10 November 2009.

With the government's renewed commitment to primary health care, the opportunity exists for the nursing profession to shape the future role of primary health care. The aim of the inaugural RCNA Primary Health Care Conference is to explore opportunities for greater integration of nursing services in the delivery of primary health care and to critically debate and analyse how the nursing role will function alongside other health care professions.

These aims are in keeping with the RCNA's objective to cultivate and maintain the highest principles of nursing by, amongst other things:

- disseminating information to members on issues of significance to nursing and health
- providing and facilitating professional development in the areas of service delivery, policy research and education
- identifying and examining the delivery and expansion of intradisciplinary and interdisciplinary primary health care.

This conference will provide a forum for nurses who are:

- students
- clinicians
- managers
- educators
- researchers
- policy-makers

Keynote speakers

Dr Anthony Hobbs



Dr Hobbs is a general practice obstetrician at Cootamundra in the NSW Riverina district where he has promoted an innovative model for integrated primary care. He is Chair of the Riverina Division of General Practice and Primary Health and the immediate Past Chair of the Australian General Practice Network. Dr Hobbs chairs the

National Primary Health Care Strategy (NPHCS) External Reference Group (ER G) which was established to assist the Government in establishing the Strategy.

Dr Hobbs keynote address will be *Primary health care reform-some reflections*

Mark C Smith MBA, GradDip Nurs Admin, BN, Cert Critical Care, FRCNA, AFAIM



Mark Smith has over 25 years experience in health care in Australia, including over 15 in senior management. After an initial background in critical care nursing, Mark moved to hospital management before expanding into the multidisciplinary community care environment.

Mark maintains a strong interest in primary care and community health as demonstrated through his roles, amongst others, as the chair of the Victorian Primary & Community Health Network, and chair of RCNA's recently established Community & Primary Health Care Faculty Advisory Committee.

Currently employed as General Manager, External Relations at Royal District Nursing Service in Melbourne, Australia's largest provider of home-based nursing services, his role carries responsibilities for monitoring health care market developments and directions in government policy; identifying and pursuing

opportunities to influence state and national directions in community care; delivering improved stakeholder relations; and raising the profile of district nursing.

Mark has spoken at many national and international conferences, particularly in the areas of clinical leadership, the evidence-practice gap, and primary care nursing, and in 2008 contributed the chapter 'Changing focus along the continuum of health care' to the book *Community Nursing in Australia*.

Mark's keynote address is titled *Alma Ata declaration – how far we **haven't** come in the last 30 years*.

Plenary session speaker

Kathleen McLaughlin FRCNA



Kathleen McLaughlin FRCNA took up the position of Director, Nursing Education, Professional Services and Projects at RCNA in February 2007. Kathleen is a registered nurse and midwife and has maintained her professional interest in both disciplines. Throughout her career she has worked across these clinical areas and been involved in workforce development and policy development in both disciplines. She has held positions in clinical management, workforce management and in a number of government departments where she has worked on nursing, midwifery, and broader health policy issues both here in Australia and overseas. She has undertaken and participated in a number of reviews of health service delivery and the ongoing development of nursing and midwifery roles.

The title of the Plenary session is *Nursing and midwifery consensus for primary health care*

Registration now open!

Registration for this exciting event is now open. For more information on RCNA's Primary Health Care Conference including registration information, [please click here](#)

Register before 7 September to access a special discounted early bird rate!

Click here to
register

For further enquires please contact Margaret Whitrow, Events Manager on 02 6283 3421 or email margaretw@rcna.org.au

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