

CANCER CENTRE EDUCATION NEWSHEET

August 2007

Please find below all the education events for this month
The Cancer Centre Education Group

Nurse Led **Guest Speaker** **Departmental Meeting**
Junior Doctor **Oncology Teaching** **Mandatory Training** **Palliative Care Education**

Date	Topic	Venue	Comment
8 th	Fire, Health and Safety	MSC Lecture Hall	Book via educ secretary
9 th	Oncology Nurse Development Programme - Ascities	Marie Curie Lecture Room – 14.15 – 15.00	Just turn up
13 th	Syringe Driver Training	MSC Meeting Room	Book via Anni Hall
14 th	Conversations in Palliative Care	MSH Seminar Room – 14.00 – 15.00	No need to book
16 th	Action Learning Set Group 3	MSC Meeting Room – 14.15 – 15.15	Sarah Russell
16 th	Oncology Nurse Development Programme - Research	Marie Curie Lecture Room -14.15 – 15.00	Just turn up
17 th	Junior Doc Comm Skills Training	MSC Meeting Room	Book via J Dickson
28 th	Conversations in Palliative Care	MSH Seminar Room	Just Turn Up



To add your education event to this diary, please contact Lorraine O'Connell on EXT 4669 with your name, designation, dept, ext no, date, teaching topic & speaker, target audience and preferred date & venue choice

PLEASE TURN OVER

***Welcome to the 14th edition of the Cancer and Palliative Care Education
Newsheet from the Mount Vernon Cancer Centre Education Group***

**The Role of the Lecturer Practitioner in Oncology
Sue Alexander**

When I trained to be a nurse, student nurses were employed by Schools of Nursing attached to Hospitals who had their own identity and ideas of how nursing education should be delivered. Most of the training was based in the clinical area, supported by Clinical Tutors. Reflecting back it appeared to me that most of what I learnt was through watching other nurses and then doing it myself. In the early nineties this type of training for nurses was phased out and nurse education was moved to Higher Education Establishments and the focus changed from a practical training to a more theory based approach. In order to disseminate the theory (that is taught in the Universities) through to the clinical areas, the post of Lecturer Practitioner was created. The aim was that through this role the “theory practice gap” could be bridged. This role has now evolved further to include the planning, delivering and evaluation of education needs of trained and experienced nurses and students.

I have been doing this job for four months now and work as part of an extended education team which includes Sarah Russell and Liz Carruthers from the Michael Sobell House Education team and Anni Hall, the Education Programme Coordinator. There are two components to the role, and although they are different I have found that they intertwine with each other to make this a very interesting and varied role.

The lecturer part of the job keeps me very busy. I attend education groups within the Mount Vernon Cancer Network, which gives me an invaluable insight into how education needs are identified and very importantly how they are funded. Already I have been involved in the planning of some exciting new ideas such as a Study day on Chemo Hazards that Karen Harrold has been organising and in the New Year Rita Flately and I will host a Haematology Study day. The Oncology Nurse Development programme is now in full swing, thank you to all of you who have been attending and are well on your way to obtaining your first certificates!

I and Liz Carruthers deliver the Cancer Centre Tours which are open to all staff who work in the network. I enjoy this part very much as it gives me a chance to boast about all the good work that we do here at the cancer centre. I also hold Action Learning Sets and facilitate a Clinical Supervision group. Currently I am working on projects such as mentorship, the study leave policy and am in close contact with both universities acting as a link for their various Oncology courses. In some hospitals the Practitioner part of the role is to take on a case load of patients in a more Clinical Nurse Specialist form. From the outset of this role I have always been very keen to make sure that the role had a large clinical element. During my orientation I met with Managers, Ward Sisters and various members of the nursing team to identify where this role could be most effective. We identified the following areas as a priority:

- Support and provide ward based teaching for new members of the nursing team with an emphasis on newly qualified nurses
- Support and supervision for nurses who were extending their role by undertaking to do the Chemotherapy Course
- Support nurses who are currently on the Oncology Diploma/ Degree Pathways

It is perhaps too soon to effectively evaluate this role and what if any impact it has in the clinical area, but so far I have had very positive feedback and enthusiasm for this part of the role. If you think that I can help and support you in my role as Lecturer Practitioner to develop and facilitate your ideas in your own clinical area, for example perhaps you may have a new innovative idea for the delivery of education sessions or it may be you would like to carry out a research project of your own but you are not sure where to start. Or if you would like to become more involved in the education of the nurses here at the cancer centre, then please contact me I would love to hear from you!

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*Do you have information that you want published or disseminated? Let us know and we will publish and distribute for you in this newsletter.
Contact Sarah Russell on sarahrussell@nhs.net*