



## WA Network Bi-monthly e-Newsletter – November 2010, Issue 8

Welcome to the November edition of the e-newsletter for WA members.



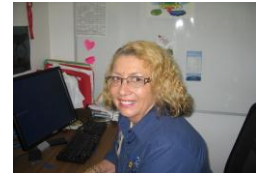
The end of 2010 is fast approaching and it has been an extremely busy year. Have you visited the fantastic new AAQHC website? If not, take some time to have a look on [www.aaqhc.org.au](http://www.aaqhc.org.au)

Congratulations to our new WA Fellows and Associate Fellows awarded at the 2010 AAQHC Conference; Fellows – Dr Paul McGurgan and Fay Winter; Associate Fellows – Mircalla Kolinac.

I hope you are feeling prepared for the festive season and are taking some time out to relax and rejuvenate. Have a happy Christmas and a jolly New Year and see you all in 2011!

*Mircalla Kolinac*

For this edition, I would like to provide some information about Valmae Joyce, one of our Associate Fellows - pictured right.



Valmae was first introduced to the 'quality world' in 1986 when she was asked to implement quality systems and achieve accreditation at Port Hedland Regional Hospital (PHRH) by October 1997. There was no quality network to ask for assistance, no e-mail system and no computer! Against all odds, success was achieved and PHRH was one of the first regional hospitals to achieve accreditation.

Valmae continued working in the field of quality and risk management, maintaining systems, teaching, implementing and consulting at PHRH and many other health services in the Gascoyne, Pilbara and Kimberly regions. During this time she undertook the WA Department of Health sponsored Quality Management program offered by the ACHS and the Medical Faculty of NSW University.

In 1997, Valmae undertook the role of Quality Coordinator at Graylands, Selby Lemnos Health Service and held the role of the WA AAQHC Representative and National Council Secretary for a 3 year period. In 2005, Valmae moved to Mercy Hospital managing Quality and Risk and then had a major career move in 2008 where she was appointed to the Lihir Medical Centre as Health Services Director.

Valmae obtained Associate Fellow status in 2005. She is a Registered Nurse, Registered Midwife, has a Bachelor in Nursing Science, Graduate Diploma of Health Promotion and a Certificate in Quality Management.

### ***Australian Commission for Safety and Quality in Health Care***

Chen Anderson has been appointed by the Commission as a member of the Hospitals Working Group. The Hospitals Working Group was created to assist the Commission to develop a guide for health services (along with supporting documentation) that will:

- Interpret the National Safety and Quality Health Services Standards (the Standards) for different health service contexts without changing the nature of the Standards themselves
- Provide examples of good practice against which services can compare their performance
- Define and describe key terms in relation to specific services
- Provide links to information, guides and other resources relevant to the standards
- Provide a consistent and uniform approach for surveyors assessing against the standards.

The Hospitals Working Group will undertake the following functions:

- Provide advice on the purpose, scope and specific content and design of the Guide
- Identify key issues of concern to health services relating to the implementation of the Standards
- Identify practical examples of how service can introduce policy documents, existing evidence based tools/guides, organisational systems and structures to meet the requirements of the Standards. This could be illustrated through the development of service specific case studies for inclusion in the Guide
- Identify target groups and appropriate strategies for the dissemination of the Guide.

From time to time, Chen will send out documents from the Commission for comments. Anyone wishing to discuss specifics of the Standards should contact Chen on 08-9213-3635 or email [chen.anderson@sjog.org.au](mailto:chen.anderson@sjog.org.au)